FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 DECEMBER 1985

Syrian, Iranian Support for Libya

Syria warns those who are thinking of attacking Libya that they will face the resources of Libya and Syria at the same time, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam declared after arriving in Tripoli to deliver a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. In his statement, reported by SANA, Khaddam also stressed that Syria has decided to confront the "conspiracy" against Libya, adding that he would inform the Libyan leadership that Syria places "all its resources" at Libya's disposal. In a related development, the Syrian and Iranian foreign ministers emphasized the need to support Libya against the U.S. "propaganda onslaught" and Egyptian "military provocations," Tehran radio disclosed in a report on their meeting in the Iranian capital.

Jaruzelski Tour

Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski arrived in Algiers 2 December, Algiers radio reported. A joint Libyan-Polish statement, which was issued on the Polish leader's earlier visit to Libya and was carried by Tripoli radio, announced the signing of four agreements designed to strengthen cooperation in legal matters, social security, broadcasting, and in economic, industrial, and technical fields. The statement also noted that the countries agreed to "coordinate" their foreign policies. Citing "informed sources" in Tunis, KUNA reported that Jaruzelski will inform Maghreb leaders that Libya "will not be alone" if the United States contemplates carrying out "any operations" against it. The sources added that Jaruzelski carries detailed reports with him on U.S. plans to change the "political scene" in a number of Maghreb countries.

Iran-Iraq War

A General Staff communique carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi planes "accurately pounded" targets on Khark Island 2 December. The Iranian petroleum minister said in an interview with Tehran radio that the attacks on Khark Island "do not affect" oil exports, adding that Iranian oil production and sales are even "somewhat higher than before."

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'Arafat Message to UN on Solidarity Day

GF301104 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 29 Nov 85

["Text" of message from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, to (Sampasari), "ambassador at the United Nations," on the UN celebration of the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people — date not given; read by announcer]

[Text] Ambassador (Sampasari), members: Greetings from the revolution. It is a pleasure for me to convey my greetings and appreciation to all of you, to the United Nations, and to its secretary general, and to all the world's peoples, and congratulate you on the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations. This occasion is being celebrated by all the world's peoples at a time when you, and all people, are celebrating the eighth anniversary of the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people's struggle and their national and inalienable rights. This year our Palestinian people repeat their high appreciation of the highest international body for its renewed pledge to decisively support their struggle and rights. They also would like to reiterate their pledge to adhere to the UN Charter and the international human rights declaration. They emphasize the role the United Nations is playing in dealing with international and regional issues. They see that any attempt to exclude the United Nations -- exclude it or reduce its role and influence -- only serves to create more international tension, threaten peace, and disavow the right of peoples struggling for their freedom, independence, and sovereignty. I would like to address on behalf of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and on behalf of the Palestinian people, a strong appeal to the world's countries, peoples, and all the concerned countries. They should rally around the United Nations and its principles and the international human rights declaration, and give it a primary role in supervising the treatment of issues which are likely to threaten world peace and expose countries at the regional and international levels to unlimited disaster. This made the PLO insist that the United Nations supervise, through the Security Council, the convening of an international conference to settle the central Middle East problem — the Palestinian problem, and the consequent Arab-Israeli conflict. World experience has shown that every attempt to exclude the United Nations and an international conference in dealing with this problem has only complicated the Middle East situation and has driven the region to more wars, confrontations, and bloodshed. Practical experience has shown that some people want to disavow the rights of our Palestinian people and take their land; they want to continue to occupy other Arab territories in Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria so that the decisive factor in the region will be that of force. These are people who fear international legitimacy and fear to deal with it because their policy and intentions violate the principles of the UN Charter and the international human rights declaration, in addition to showing their continued disregard of the recommendations of the General Assembly and the Security Council and their resolutions on the Palestinian issue and the occupied Arab territories.

It is the U.S. leaders who fight the constructive role of the United Nations and announce their rejection of an international conference. We believe that he who fears international legitimacy, international law, the principles of the UN Charter, and the international human rights declaration wants peace in the Middle East and all over the world to remain threatened, and the law of the jungle to dominate in this part of the world. But how can the role of the Security Council be blocked and the recommendations of the UN General Assembly be disregarded as a result of the intransigence of one country — the United States? If the U.S. Government represents a world superpower and, more than that, represents the American people who articulated the first international declaration of human rights, its duty and responsibility is to enhance the constructive role of the United Nations, respect people's right to self-determination, support the rights of every human being, and accept an international conference to settle the Palestine problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict. They should not be the only party allowing the Israeli Government to practice its terrorism freely in Palestine, the Middle East, and all over the world, continue occupying others' territories, exercise the policy of killing and liquidation, oppression, exile, and expulsion against the Palestinian people, and commit aggressions in U.S. planes.

Since the U.S. Administration is turning a deaf ear to the calls of the people and the international community, especially the calls of our Palestinian people who have been subjected to torture and disasters for about 40 years, I appeal to the conscience of the American people to remove the veil from the eyes of the U.S. President and to reject the policies of war, aggression, terrorism, racism, and usurpation of the rights of peoples.

Mr President, members of the UN General Assembly: When the Israeli Government found itself isolated from the international community and surrounded by the recommendations and resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the Security Council; when it found out that its image in the world has taken the form of a merchant of death, terrorism, wars, and aggression against others; when it found out that the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO can carry the olive branch and the rifle at the same time; and when the whole world began to become convinced of the wise policies pursued by the PLO which proved its efforts to become a constructive factor in extricating the Middle East region from a state of war, destruction, terrorism, and oppression and in changing it into a peace zone, in which justice, cooperation, and prosperity prevail, the Israeli leadership decided to escalate its aggressive war against the Palestinian people and their legitimate representative. It moved directly at times and gave the green light to others at other times to begin a process aimed at destroying the PLO and at cutting off its hand which is carrying the olive branch after it had failed to force it to discard this olive branch. Thus, it launched its aggressive war against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and plotted to remove the PLO from Lebanon. Then it began terrorist operations against a number of PLO cadres and leaders that extended from Cyprus to Lisbon and Rome. It assassinated many of our cadres in Cyprus, Athens, Italy, and Spain. You all have heard about the assassination of 'Isam al-Sartawi in Lisbon and you all have heard about the assassination of Reverend Odeh in the United States. These are merely examples. All this has been carried out along with a concentrated campaign of arrests, killings, and expulsions in the occupied Palestinian territory in an attempt to suppress the growing great popular uprising. All this has happened and has not been considered by the United

States as aggression, terrorism, and oppression. The administration of President Reagan has not considered the aggression against the sovereignty of Lebanon and the shelling of its capital with thousands of bombs an aggressive act and a violation of the charter. It has not considered the assassination of Palestinian scientists, journalists, and strugglers in European capitals as international terrorism. It has not considered the mass arrests, destruction of houses, the firing upon demonstrators, killings without trial, expulsions and deportations, the distortion of the features of areas, and threats by the Israeli Government to the rights of the Palestinian people and their towns and villages as violations of the international declaration on human rights and Geneva agreements concerning the treatment of inhabitants and prisoners during war.

It should be recalled here that these terrorist and aggressive policies practiced by the Israeli Government with declared support by the United States escalated during the past 2 years when the PLO took steps to show its eagerness to achieve peace and to bring about a just settlement of the Palestinian issue. We, as well as many leaders of the world and the international community, are certain that the U.S. Administration is annoyed to see the Palestinian people carrying the olive branch and is harrassed to see the PLO sticking to international legitimacy and to UN resolutions and the principles of its charter and its international declaration on human rights. This was clearly revealed when it supported the Israeli aggression against the PLO headquarters in Tunis at the beginning of October, which was aimed at assassinating PLO leaders and at foiling the joint Jordanian-Palestinian peace efforts, and which at the same time violated the sovereignty of Tunisian territory. This was further revealed when it hijacked the Egyptian plane and forced it to land at one of its military bases in Italy, as if it wants to say to all that this is the language which should prevail in the world — the language of piracy, terrorism, and bloody struggles.

Finally, this stand was openly revealed when the Reagan administration turned a deaf ear to the Cairo Declaration which the PLO announced through the chairman of its Executive Committee on 7 November. It did not adopt a positive attitude toward it. Rather, it wanted to provoke the PLO leadership so that it would abandon it before the ink with which it was written had dried. However, we say no. PLO policy will not be dictated by reaction or provocation, nor by Israeli terrorism. Rather, it will continue to proceed from self-confidence, adherence to reason, and the principles of the UN Charter and human rights, and from acceptance of the recommendations of UN resolutions, concern for the protection of innocent blood, and peace in the Middle East and the world. These policies will continue to proceed from a belief in the highest responsibility toward the supreme interests of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation in liberating the Palestinian and Arab territories from Israeli occupation. The PLO will not be dragged behind blind terrorism or behind reactions. It will not submit to pressures which intend it to become a card in the hand of others. It will not permit despair to infiltrate into hearts because it wants to remain worthy of leading these people who have carried out the most splended heroism while confronting the strongest form of occupation, the sternest form of racism, and the crueliest form of injustice. The PLO wants to remain worthy of bearing the principles of its Arab nation and the Nonaligned Movement in defending its people's rights and the rights of other oppressed peoples to self-determination, sovereignty, security, peace, and prosperity.

Hence, I declare on this august occasion, and amid hard and complex circumstances and in confrontation of severe conspiracies, dangers, and attempts to besiege, exterminate, and liquidate, that our people will continue to bear the olive branch while struggling with arms, demonstrations, and strikes for the sake of liberating their land and obtaining their right to self-determination and to establish their state, and repatriate those who have been driven from their homes. Our people, meanwhile, adhere to the UN Charter and the international declaration of human rights, and insist on the implementation of all recommendations and resolutions issued by the United Nations. They emphasize the need for the United Nations to carry out its constructive role in supervising an international conference to discuss the Palestinian issue, and the Arab-Israeli conflict and Middle East crisis which have sprung from it. This conference constitutes an appropriate framework and must include the USSR, the United States, the permanent member-countries of the UN Security Council, and the concerned parties, including the PLO.

Mr President and members, in conclusion, I recall a recent event which has caused me a lot of pain and profoundly affected my people, that is, when the U.S. Administration, and President Reagan in particular, performed a form of terrorism and extortion when he used his influence and the entire influence of the United States to prevent me from appearing before the UN General Assembly and delivering my address — the address of the Palestinian people — from its platform. I see in this, and many among you perhaps agree with me, new proof that the President of the largest country which advocates democracy, freedom of expression, and human rights, adopts a stand that is liable to assist those who attempt to knock the olive branch from the Palestinian hand and smother the voice of peace, justice, and right.

Mr President and members, I am confident that the act of preventing me from addressing the United Nations this year, which was preceded by an attempt to assassinate me personally during flight, will not prevent me from continuing the struggle together with the sufferers among my people in order to achieve a lasting and just peace. I have great hope that our struggle will enjoy your support and assistance until victory.

Mr President and members, in my own name, and on behalf of the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestinian people, I thank you for celebrating this international day in solidarity with the struggle of our Palestinian people, and their legitimate rights. I again express hope that the international community will constructively cooperate so that it will prove the credibility of the United Nations and its ability to carry out positive political roles to resolve complicated international issues, including the just Palestinian cause.

Signed: Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces

PLO Chairman Comments on Central Council Meeting

GF301452 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 30 Nov 85 p 9

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, by *AL-ITTIHAD* correspondent Hamid Zaydan in Baghdad — date not given]

[Excerpt] [Hamid Zaydan] Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian affairs, said in Cairo that direct negotiations with the PLO could begin if the PLO declares — in Baghdad — its acceptance of UN Resolutions 242 and 338. In a press statement Murphy said: We are awaiting the relavant results of the Palestinian leadership's meetings in Baghdad.

[Yasir 'Arafat] The PLO Central Council [PCC] has commissioned the Executive Committee to follow up all such open U.S. maneuvers and has granted it freedom of action within our constants and resolutions.

[Zaydan] Does that mean that the PCC has neither accepted nor rejected [these resolutions]?

['Arafat] The PCC has granted the Executive Committee freedom of action and expressed its confidence in it.

[Zaydan] Was a vote taken on the Cairo Declaration?

['Arafat] It was also unanimously accepted.

[Zaydan] Concerning dialogue among Palestinian factions, what executive measures are being taken to achieve this in the near future?

['Arafat] The PCC has adopted resolutions which will be implemented by the Executive Committee.

PLO Source: 'Not Possible to Cancel' 17th PNC Session

GF291651 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1145 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Nov (WAKH) — A Palestinian source has asserted that it is not possible to cancel the 17th PNC session which was held in Amman in November 1984, or the resolutions it adopted, since it was a legitimate session.

The source, commenting on reports to this effect, said in a statement published today in the Abu Dhabi newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, that in the event it meets with the participation of all Palestinian factions, the PNC has the right to amend the resolutions adopted by previous PNC sessions. He stated that all issues are subject to discussion. The source added that it is possible to abandon numerous stands for the sake of achieving Palestinian national unity, on the condition that it does not affect the invariable aspects of Palestinian action, the most prominent of which are the independence of Palestinian decision-making, the right of the Palestinian people to carry out armed struggle anywhere in their homeland, and the right to self-determination and to establish an independent state.

The Palestinian official, whom the paper did not name other than to say that he is a member of the PLO Central Council, noted that a special committee has been formed to contact the Palestinian factions. The committee is chaired by Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee.

Committee Established To Begin Dialogue on Unity

GF010428 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 29 Nov 85 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AL-BAYAN* has learned that a Palestinian committee was formed under the chairmanship of Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad [member of the Fatah Central Committee], following the meetings of the PLO Central Council for the purpose of restoring Palestinian national unity; it includes in addition to Salah Khalaf, Salih al-Barghuthi, member of the PNC; and Colonel Samir al-Khatib, head of the PLO Military Department.

Samir al-Khatib arrived in Amman and immediately began making telephone calls to independent nationalist figures in order to arrange meetings between them and Salah Khalaf who will arrive in Amman within the next 2 days to start a dialogue with these figures.

AL-BAYAN has learned that an indirect dialogue has begun between the PLO leadership and the leadership of the Palestinen National Salvation Front [PNSF] through mediators from the PDRY.

Informed Palestinian sources have told *AL-BAYAN* that this dialogue has taken a serious form with the aim of achieving Palestinian national unity on the basis of armed struggle through the PLO and the convening of a unifying PNC in Algiers in order to abolish the consequences of the 17th PNC which was held in Amman.

The sources said that the two sides to the dialogue, the PLO and the PNSF, are insisting on making it succeed. The sources said that this indirect dialogue will be followed by a meeting in Aden between Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and the PNSF leaders before the end of the year.

Qaddumi: PLO Will 'Never Recognize' Israel

JN011759 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1650 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, has stressed that the PLO will never recognize the Zionist entity's right to exist because it is a hostile presence in the Middle East which cannot be recognized.

Brother Abu al-Lutf said that a just and lasting peace must guarantee the Palestinian people's right to repatriation, self-determination, and to establish their independent state without any foreign interference.

In an interview with *AL-DUSTUR* magazine published in London today, brother Abu al-Lutf added that the Zionist entity has never been ready to recognize the Palestinian people's national

rights but, on the contrary, through its aggressions, the Zionist entity seeks to liqidiate the Palestinian existence and to delete this existence from the political and geographical maps and seize Palestinian territories.

Brother Abu al-Lutf stressed that the Palestinian people and revolution will continue the struggle to liberate Palestine, establish the independent Palestinian state, and achieve the objectives approved by the United Nations.

Regarding the Cairo Declaration, brother Abu al-Lutf pointed out that the PLO respects the human being and his right to live and that it will never direct its actions against civilians. He said that the PLO carries out its armed struggle against military targets and that it concentrates on military action and struggle inside the occupied Palestinian territories.

Brother Abu al-Lutf said: We should not allow the Zionist entity to affect security and peace regardless of the price because the Zionist entity is an imperialist plan. He said: We should not imagine that the United States and the Zionist enemy work for peace.

PLO Source on Arrest of 'Abd al-Fattah by Italians

NC022258 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2245 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tunis, 2 Dec (MENA) — A responsible PLO source released a statement here tonight dismissing news agency reports on the arrest of the so-called 'Umar Salim 'Abd al-Fattah by Italian police in Verona. The source said that the so-called 'Abd al-Fattah claims that he is a PLO officer, and asserted that this person is neither a Palestinian nor has he any connection with the PLO.

'Arafat Names PLO Representatives in Egypt

NC292244 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA) — In tomorrow's edition, *AL-AHRAM* reports that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has decided to strengthen the Palestinian presence in Egypt by appointing Zuhdi al-Qidrah as Fatah's representative in Egypt and Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim as the PLO's envoy in Cairo.

The paper says that the goal of this decision is to bolster relations with Egypt in all fields.

PLO Statement on Attacks Against Jews in YAR

GF012019 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] The PLO has issued the following statement:

The French radio's eastern service carried a report today on an attack against Jews living in Yemen by Palestinians living there. The PLO, after making all the necessary contacts, wishes to confirm the baselessness of this fabricated news, which is aimed at justifying what the Israeli media networks — and the Western media networks collaborating with them — are covering up: A new crime being planned by Israel against the Arab countries. This proves the truth of what we declared 2 days ago on the training carried out by the Israeli Air Force over the Red Sea against Arab targets.

The PLO does not need to confirm its fraternal and stable stand regarding Jews living in our Arab country, who are against Zionism and its racist and inhumane crimes.

KUWAIT

Crown Prince Leaves for 'Urgent' Operation in UK

LD301530 Kuwait KUNA in English 1448 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 30 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah left at 1800 hours Saturday for the United Kingdom to undergo an urgent gall bladder operation.

SAUDI ARABIA

Source Denies Gifts Encourage Arab Reconciliation

LD012055 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2010 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Riyadh, 1 Dec (SPA) — There is absolutely no truth in what the British weekly *THE OBSERVER* says in its issue published this morning, Sunday 19, Rabi' al-Awwal, in which it claims that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has offered money and quantities of oil to two fraternal Arab states to prompt them to hold reconciliation talks. This was stated by a responsible source in the Kingdom to the SAUDI PRESS AGENCY.

The source adds that any decision made by an Arab state toward a rapprochement stems from the full conviction of this state to what is required by the higher Arab interest, removed from any external influences. The source further says that these fabricated reports will not have any effect on the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which aim to ensure all that is likely to realize the hopes of the Arab nation for a better future and en renched solidarity.

UAE

Deputy Chief of Staff on Ties With USSR

LD301458 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1154 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 30 Nov (KUNA) — The deputy chief of staff of the Armed Forces and heir apparent of Abu Dhabi, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid has stated that his country will receive the first batch of the French Mirage 2000 planes next October.

In a statement to a KUNA correspondent here today on the occasion of the UAE independence anniversary, Shaykh Khalifah said that a group of Abu Dhabi pilots and technicians will leave for Paris at the beginning of January to train on these modern aircraft and that there is an intention to transform the Air College in the UAE into a Higher Air Academy capable of absorbing cadets from all the GCC member-countries.

He declared that joint exercises will be held by the end of this year by the naval forces of the UAE, Kuwait, and Bahrain.

He also said that his country follows a policy of diversification of arms from both the East and the West within the framework of the military strategy approved by the GCC.

On the question of the exchange of diplomatic relations between his country and the Eastern bloc countries, he said that there is nothing to prevent this, now that relations have been established with Moscow, the leader of the socialist camp, and were established previously with the PRC.

Shaykh Khalifah proposed the creation of an agricultural board within the collective framework of the GCC member-countries to draw up a timetable for food security on the level of the region's countries during the coming decades.

He affirmed his country's support for the holding of the hitherto postponed Arab summit conference in Riyadh immediately because the current conditions necessitate that. He warned of the gravity of the situation on the Arab arena and called for effective serious moves to cast aside differences and to achieve solidarity, adding that the absence of such solidarity has given the Zionist enemy his real strength.

In this regard, he called for settlement of the question of Egypt's return to its natural place within the Arab ranks now, rather than in the future, affirming that Egypt will become strong and influential if the Arabs extend their hands to it.

He said that the Arabs must be self-reliant and that nothing will force the East or the West to respect the rights of the Arabs other than the triumph of the Arab nation over its present conditions.

He expressed his hope that the efforts exerted by the Sultanate of Oman in its capacity as the current chairman fo the GCC Ministerial Council would succeed in containing the Iraq-Iran conflict and the reaching of a joint formula acceptable to both sides to end the war.

He affirmed that Kuwait has an important role to play in supporting and bolstering the cause of unity in the Gulf area since "it has always been the first to rush to bolster the bridges with the UAE in all fields before and after the creation of the UAE."

Asked why the present time was chosen for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the UAE and the USSR and whether there was any intention to establish similar relations between the UAE and the other member-countries of the East European bloc, Shaykh Khalifah said that the UAE pursues a firm policy aimed at the widening of the circle of friends provided that this takes place within the framework of the principles and norms of mutual respect and noninterference in the affairs of others. The relations announced between the UAE and the USSR recently do meet these conditions and are part of this policy. There are no special reasons for choosing the present time to announce the establishment of these relations. This year, he said, we have established diplomatic relations with a number of other countries and at present we have diplomatic relations on ambassadorial level with 92 countries.

As to the establishment of diplomatic relations with the East European countries, our policy in this regard is clear, as I have already said and I believe that there is nothing to prevent the establishment of relations with any of these countries since we have already established relations with Moscow, the leader of the socialist camp, and previously with the PRC.

Official on Ties With Socialist Bloc States

LD011713 Kuwait KUNA in English 1409 GMT 1 Dec 85

[By Salah Tayel]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Dec 1 (KUNA) — Foreign Ministry Undersecretary of the United Arab Emirates Shaykh Hamdan ibn Zayid al-Nahayyan said Sunday his country is keen on expanding the network of its relations and friendship with the countries of the world "but establishing diplomatic relations with the socialist bloc states is something left for the future circumstances." Shaykh Hamdan, whose country announced establishing diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union as of last November 13 was answering a question from KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY (KUNA) on whether this step would be followed by establishing similar relations with the remaining socialist bloc states.

Answering a question on a proposal from Yugoslavia to establish diplomatic relations with the UAE, Shaykh Hamdan said Yugoslavia is a prominent member of the Non-Aligned Movement and has positive attitudes toward the Arab causes in particular and the Third World issues in general. From that starting point, Shaykh Hamdan said, the UAE will work for the consolidation of relations with Belgrade.

In reply to another question on whether the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) intends to establish diplomatic relations with countries that maintain no such ties with the GCC members, the UAE official said "each GCC country draws up its foreign policy in accordance with its own interests and the Arab interests in general."

On the current efforts to clear Arab atmospheres and restore consensus, Shaykh Hamdan said his country has spared no effort toward that goal and said this approach "is one of the basic principles of the UAE foreign policy." He pointed out that Abu Dhabi is a member of the reconciliation committee formed by Casablanca extra-ordinary Arab summit conference which was assigned to reconcile Libya with both Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

On the efforts to bring the Iraq-Iran war to an end, Shaykh Hamdan said his country's efforts (?are a) part of the GCC endeavor, and pointed out that Muscat GCC summit last month has called for contacts with both warring countries in a bid to stop the bloodshed.

PDRY

Chairman Delivers Independence Day Address

GF292014 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1758 GMT 29 Nov 85

["Text" of speech delivered by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium on the 18th anniversary of independence day — live]

[Text] During these glorious moments, I convey my warm congratulations on the 18th anniversary of our national independence to the children of our Yemeni people, to the families of the liberation war, to the noble nationalists, and to the strugglers of our party in the name of the YSP Central Committee and the Supreme People's Council Presidium. On 30 November every year, we celebrate the anniversary of our national independence. This commemorates the anniversary which (?pushed) our courageous Yemeni people into the inferno of the national and social liberation battles [words indistinct] until the eruption of the glorious 14 October revolution. From this (?premise) [words indistinct], the national front continues to effectively and actively take part with our people and the national and progressive (?sides). This is the revolution whose victory the people ensured by donating convoys of martyrs and by making serious sacrifices — the price for their freedom and their right to attain [word indistinct] progress and victory against the imperialists and their agents [words indistinct] and the establishment of the PDRY.

Imperialism and its local pillars tried to keep our country in the grip of bitter retardation on the political, economical, social, and cultural levels, and ignorant of the obsequiousness of international capitalism, [words indistinct] to bolster the shaykhdoms, the amirates, and the sultanates, and to consecrate the tribal disputes in the southern part of the homeland. It also consecrated — through [words indistinct] the reactionary imamite regime and by partitioning the Yemeni homeland on the territorial and popular level. Despite all this, and all of the efforts of imperialist oppression and repression, we [words indistinct] the liberation struggle of our Yemeni people as the Yemeni worker class occupied an outstanding and effective role. This role was exemplified in the victory of the 23 September Revolution and the establishment of the republican regime in the northern part of the homeland. Counting on the aid and the backing of all Arab liberation movements and the socialist and democratic [word indistinct] in the world had an effective role in (?kindling) the armed popular revolution under the command of the leaders of the national front, crowned by the acquisition of national independence.

O masses of our people, O masses of our Yemeni people, the independence placed the country on the threshold of a new stage during which it formed the [word indistinct] for social conversions [words indistinct] away from retardation [words indistinct] by basing it on a course of scientific socialism and international proliterianism — considered the basis for international revolutionary power in the country [words indistinct]. The revolutionary Yemeni movement acquired the backing of the working class [words indistinct] by the Arab liberation powers and the socialist countries bloc, foremost being the Soviet Union, by continuing the firm basis of our policies. Our victories, after the glorious movement of 22 June, which finally opened the way in the country for attaining the goals of the democratic national revolution and setting the material and technological introduction for socialism in our country.

[Words indistinct] and the masses of our people, through the living experience of our nationalist social system, have borne witness that this constant and principled policy has been achieved by a hard and [word indistinct] struggle and by great sacrifices. This is within the struggle on internal and external levels against class enemies, against attempts of rightist and leftist perversion, and against conspiratorial methods, beginning with military

aggression and acts of sabotage and destruction of the projects of (?peaceful) construction in our country, and ending with attempts to contain us with campaigns of misinformation and distortion against our political and social policy. Your revolutionary Yemeni unity, embodied in the struggle unity against the colonialists and their agents for the sake of consolidating national stability and the country s sovereignty and the choice of the policy of [words indistinct] in the era of scientific socialism, has been the foundation crowned by the establishment of the unified political organization of the national front within the YSP, the party of the working class and its allies among the hardworking social forces. It is the party which was established by a legitimate [word indistinct] of the most noble and best traditions of the Yemeni revolutionary movement, and which safeguards and develops it today through its sacred and principled unity and its leading role in society as a strong and honest defender of the interests of the Yemeni working class, its security and stability, for the sake of social progress, and Yemeni unity on peaceful and democratic principles.

O masses of our great Yemeni people, our country's independence is 18 years old. Compared to the long legacy of backwardness [word indistinct] left by the eras of colonialism, and in view of our country's limited resources and capabilities, this is a negligible period of time, if we look at it in the light of the successes achieved in various political, economic, social, cultural fields.

Within a period of a few years we have been able to establish a modern economic, social, nationalist structure, of which the state sector constitutes the major force. The basic structures of the national economy have been established and continue to be built in close cooperation with the countries of the socialist bloc. Among these are road networks, electricity networks, ports, modern airports, irrigation installations, dams, and other achievements that are today among the characteristics of the PDRY image, the image of the our country's new society.

Achievements in social services represent another face of this shinning image of our country. These services include education, health, housing, cultural, and information fields which are becoming available in most parts of the Republic. These services are an integral part of our development policy designed to achieve the completion of material and spiritual enhancement for the human being. The issue of people's authority and (?its tackling by) the state and the maintenance of democratic legitimacy, which will widen the people's participation in political and social life, has been one of the prominent characteristics of the PDRY's achievements and its people's ability to build their social system derived from scientific socialism.

Through its principled and constant foreign policy, our country has achieved prestigious status in the Arab and international liberation movements, and has won the respect and appreciation of the countries of the socialist bloc and democratic powers in the world. We shall continue to assiduously pursue this policy in order to be fed from the principles of our party and system based on peaceful coexistence and international solidarity.

Our proud people, while we celebrate this year's independence anniversary, we live under the effects of the YSP third party congress, which was facilitated by our people's extensive activities in successfully preparing its works. Our country's workers aspire to achieve results which will continue the political, economic, social, and cultural process in the country. The third party congress has specified our party trend and the tasks lying ahead to march on the path of social progress.

Our party's strugglers and all honorable citizens of our country must make good and diligent efforts to creatively implement the resolutions of the third party congress. They must struggle even more to strengthen our party's principled ideological, political, and organizational unity and to deepen the leadership role, as leadership vanguards, in directing the revolutionary work within the socialist horizons. We must struggle to direct all resources and capabilities to implement the third 5-year plan, in order to augment the standard of living of our people, enhance the country's economic and defense capabilities, strengthen the PDRY's status, and challenge the nable task — which never leaves our minds — of uniting Yemeni people and territory.

To achieve a united and democratic Yemen we must struggle for more cooperation and coordination between the two parts of the homeland and against the dangers of the imperialist and reactionary plots. We must create the necessary conditions for Yemeni unity through which Yemen will achieve its independence and sovereignty. This unity will secure the building of a state to reflect the aspirations and desires of popular classes and social groups struggling to establish a bright socialist society.

To maintain the progressive system in our country is a task to be carried out through hard and serious work to tackle difficulties and defects encountered in the development process. This task is to be performed by directing the works of party organizations, cadres, and members; state organs; and popular organizations to tangibly tackle the difficulties arising from the economic and social development. This task is also requires that serious attention be paid to the strugglers' problems. The strugglers must be supported and vital connections with the workers must be strengthened in installations of work and production. The workers' views must be considered and their participation in the political and social work must be organized to achieve the successes of progressive building and to bolster the PDRY status.

Our foreign policy trend is an inseparable part of the revolutionary working force in our time. This trend will stay deeply allied to the Arab national liberation forces and the democratic peaceful, and socialist powers in the world, foremost being the Soviet Union. Within the framework of our struggle tasks, we recognize — more than ever before — the strength of this alliance and its main importance to render successful our revolutionary experiment and achieve victory for our Arab struggles against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction. Let the anniversary of the national independence day be an incentive for more successes. May God be with you every year. Thank you.

Mubarak Comments on Libyan Border Buildup

NC031051 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 3 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met today with the African interior ministers, who have concluded their meetings in Cairo. Afterward, Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi said that President Mubarak explained the importance of national security for the African Continent, particularly in permitting development and construction.

According to Rushdi, the president commented on the reports about a military buildup on Egypt's border with Libya. The president said that Egypt is an Arab and African country, and cannot possibly fight another sisterly Arab or African country. We are merely taking any possible developments into account, Mubarak pointed out.

The interior minister also said that Mubarak urged implementation of the recommendations issued by the African Conference on the Prevention of Crime. For their part, the African interior ministers expressed their full satisfaction with the conference's recommendations.

The interior minister said that there will be further bilateral and multilateral meetings among the African interior ministers on the implementation of the conference's resolutions. He concluded by saying that the African ideal of collective security is closer to realization as a result of this conference, which involved the participation of the entire continent's leaders in the field of security, rather than those of merely a few countries.

'Abd al-Majid Remarks

NC030505 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has asserted that Egypt will resist all acts of terrorism and is determined to respond to these acts.

During an interview he gave today to reporters from the West German state of Bavaria, to be published in tomorrow's edition of *AL-AKHBAR*, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt had taken precautions along the borders with Libya as a preventive measure. He pointed out that Egypt is linked by strong ties to the Libyan people. But, he added, Egypt does not approve of the behavior of the Libyan leadership.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that the Libyan leadership had tried to assassinate the former Libyan prime minister. He said that there are signs that point to Libya's involvement in the criminal hijacking of the Egyptian airliner. We tried in the beginning to contact Libyan officials, but their response was evasive.

On Egyptian-Sudanese relations, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said: These relations are good and we are fully satisfied with them. He added that Egypt is trying to assist Sudan as much as it can to enable it to confront its economic problems.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid went on to stress the importance of the PLO's participation in the peace process, saying that this is accepted by world public opinion. He added that Yasir 'Arafat is the head of the PLO and the leader who enjoys the respect of a broad popular base.

Asked to comment on the opposition voices in Egypt, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that this is purely the democratic atmosphere that prevails in Egypt. He added: This is an experiment and we are keen to keep it going.

Concluding, Dr 'Abd al-Majid stated that the European countries support and back Egypt and the Palestinian cause. He said that President Mubarak had received messages from several heads of states expressing their support for Egypt.

Foreign, Interior Ministers Discuss Hijacking

'Abd al-Majid Interviewed

DW030738 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 2 Dec 85 p 132

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given]

[Text] *SPIEGEL*: As a member of the Egyptian crisis staff you gave orders to storm the hijacked airliner. Why did you not negotiate to save human lives?

'Abd al-Majid: We tried to negotiate from the first moment, for more than 24 hours. We wanted to discuss demands and proposals for a solution. However, we then learned that the kidnappers had begun to kill the passengers one by one.

SPIEGEL: Did the kidnappers make any demands?

'Abd-al-Majid: Neither political nor other demands, which was indeed very strange. They only demanded that the Maltese refuel the plane. However, the plane was dmaged and it could not take off anyway.

SPIEGEL: When the Italian liner *Achille Lauro* was seized, Egypt flew the hijackers out of the country, Why did you become active in Malta?

'Abd al-Majid: The *Achille Lauro* was an Italian ship in international waters — no Egyptians were on board. We acted out of humantitarian reasons, and because we were asked by the FRG, Italy, and other countries. The German and the Italiian ambassadors had subnitted written statements to my office. We decided at that time to seve the innocoent. However, this time we were dealing with culprits who were much worse.

SPIEGEL: Was the action of the Egyptian commandos in Valletta coordinated with the Maltese Government?

'Abd al-Majid: We have a written statement from the Maltese Government. The prime minister and the foreign minister of Malta tried in vaain to make the hijackers release the hostages. The hijackers of the *Achille Lauro* however, negotiated with us, agreeing to release the passengers; they had they had only demanded that we bring them to the PLO.

SPIEGEL: The action of the elite Egyptian elite ended in a bloodbath. Why did you not wait until the hijackers were worn out?

'Abd al-Majid: The terrorists were determined to risk everything. What would the world have said if we had inactively allowed the shooting and killing of all the passengers, starting with the Europeans and Americans?

SPIEGEL: Obviously, the Egyptian soldiers had little experience.

'Abd al-Majid: They had experience. They belong to an excellently trained elite unit. However, the hijackers' actions forced us to act quickly.

SPIEGEL: Who were the kidnappers?

'Abd al-Majid: I do not want to anticipate the results of the Maltese investigations. However, one fact is certain: they were not Egyptians. People who do not speak an Egyptian dialect can hardly come from Egypt. Is it not a strange "Egyptian Liberation Front" to which no Egyptian belongs?

SPIEGEL: President Mubarak holds Libya responsible. Is there evidence in that respect?

'Abd al-Majid: The only surviving terrorist demanded to be flown to Libya, of all places. Some 10 days ago, Libyan agents in Cairo tried to kidnap the former Libyan prime minister, 'Abd al-Hamid Bakush, who is living in asylum in Egypt. The four Libyans were cought by our security organs. We have become accustomed to such Libyan actions.

SPIEGEL: Will there be military actions against Libya?

'Abd al-Majed: I cannot say anything about that. I do not know.

SPIEGEL: Egypt has asked Malta to extradite the surviving kidnapper. Will Malta grant that request?

'Abd al-Majid: I very much hope so, besause in the past Egypt has extradited Maltese saboteurs to Malta for trial.

SPIEGEL: Was the action a success for you despite the many dead?

'Abd al-Majid: Egypt will always fight terrorism with all its resources. If hijackers know that a country is firmly determined to face terrorism — only then will they in the future hesitate to hijack planes.

Rushdi Denies Units in Malta

NC021631 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi has stated that Egypt expects that the Maltese authorities will agree to hand over the injured hijacker of the Egyptian airliner to the Egyptian authorities, given the good relations and cooperation between the two countries. The injured hijacker is being treated in Malta.

At a news conference at the end of the first African Conference for the Prevention of Crime today, the interior minister said: We are trying to find out if there is any truth in reports that a second terrorist has survived. If this should turn out to be the case, we will announce it publicly.

Ahmad Rushdi declared that there are no Egyptian forces in Malta protecting the injured terrorist, and said: I believe that the Maltese authorities are capable of ensuring that the terrorist is protected and guarded and of fulfilling their necessary obligations. He said there are absolutely no Egyptian units in Malta.

In response to a question as to whether the Egyptian Interior Ministry has obtained information or evidence on the involvement of the Libyan regime in the hijacking of the Egyptian plane from Athens to Malta, the interior minister stated: We are not going to reveal the details we have, and we are not in a position to disclose all the information we have obtained.

'No Mercy for Terrorism'

NC300747 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA) — Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi has declared that the global problem of dealing with terrorism does not lie in the many recommendations that international organizations have issued outlawing terrorism. Regrettably, the problem lies in the fact that these recommendations are not binding.

Rushdi hosted a dinner last night in honor of the delegations participating in the first African anticrime studies and research conference. Prior to the dinner he said that at this conference Egypt will demand that these recommendations be binding, especially the one regarding the extradition of terrorists to the states targetted by the attack.

Concluding his statement, Rushdi said that Egypt's motto in dealing with terrorism is clear: No mercy for terrorism. He added that Egypt's recent stand has proved that it is in the vanguard of those states which bravely confront terrorism. He said we hope the day will come when the world will not give in to terrorism, regardless of the situation. This will not occur unless there is an international commitment to ending terrorism.

Survivors of Hijacking Return From Malta

NC301538 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA) — An Egyptair airliner carrying the survivors of the hijacking arrived in Cairo shortly before noon today. The aircraft had left Cairo early this morning, with medical equipment and a number of doctors aboard, to transport the injured.

On their arrival, the injured survivors affirmed that the successful storming operation of the airliner was necessary and that there was no alternative to the rescue, because the terrorists were

subjecting innocent passengers to violence. The injured survivors agreed that the hijackers had used all forms of violence against the passengers from the start of the hijacking.

The survivors noted that the stewardesses had played a major role in protecting the aircraft. Some of them had shielded the passengers and had been hit by bullets.

The list of the returning injured survivors includes Captain Hani Jalal, co-pilot 'Imad Bahiy al-Din, security officers Madhat Kamil and Nabil Za'tar, and passengers Ahmad Fu'ad, Salah 'Abd al-Qawiy, Ahlam 'Abd Alfattah, Maha Kamil, L. Gabriel, Ilham Dars, and Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman.

Israeli Delegation Arrives for Tabah Talks

NC022005 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1955 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 2 Dec (MENA) — Avraham Tamir, director of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo this evening from Tel Aviv. They are on an official visit to resume the Tabah talks on Wednesday. The Israeli delegation was received by Assistant Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Badawi.

Discussions Open

NC031106 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Cairo, 3 Dec (MENA) — Talks between Egypt and Israel on the Tabah issue opened today at the MENA House Hotel. The United States is also taking part in the discussions.

Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi is leading the Egyptian delegation, while General Avraham Tamir, director of the Israeli Prime Minister's Office, and David Kimche, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, head the Israeli side. Alan Kreczko, the State Department's legal adviser, is leading the American team.

The three delegations were involved in a series of bilateral talks this morning before the official session.

Prime Minister Addresses People's Assembly

NC301657 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0927 GMT 30 Nov 85

["Government policy statement" delivered by Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi at a People's Assembly session in Cairo on 30 November — live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. "I desire only [your] betterment to the best of my power; and my success [in this task] can come only from God" [Koranic verse]. Verily, God spoke the truth.

Mr Speaker, brothers and sisters, members of the People's Assembly:

It gives me great pleasure to meet with the representatives of this great country in order to present to them the government statement and the government's conceptions, ideas, and plan of action for the coming phase. The legislative achievements of the last parliamentary session, which were the result of serious study and earnest discussion, prove beyond doubt that you are true to the task with which the people have entrusted you, namely, the realization of their demands and aspirations. Clearly, the fact that they voted you into this Assembly imposes a burden rather than a privilege upon you. This brings you closer to the constituencies that sent you here.

Your second parliamentary session begins as the government launches a drive on all fronts of economic and social development. This shows the importance of our common efforts in achieving the objectives of our people. Here, I would like to emphasize the government's profound belief in the widest possible participation in democratic decisionmaking. It is out of the question that any decision will be made or any policy forged without having been debated and approved by you. Our task is to formulate policies and plans and yours is to legislate. Our joint effort will be characterized by teamwork and our people will give it its vitality. It is no coincidence that the government was formed at NDP headquarters. The goals and principles of the NDP actually reflect the will and aspirations of our people in every town, village, hamlet, and home in this country. The government can sense the trust of the people, from whom it sprang, and for whom it works.

There is a decided political role for the NDP to play, but this should not eclipse the role of the opposition, as long as democracy is our chosen path and goal. Democracy is respect for differences of opinion. The free play of opinion is capable of generating practical and well though-out solutions to the problems challenging us. Let us welcome other opinions, let us welcome constructive opposition that turns its back on individual squabbles and focuses exclusively on the interests of Egypt and the Egyptians. [applause]

Mr Speaker, brother and sister members of this respected Assembly:

At the beginning of my speech, I would like to stress most particularly that my government's programs will continue the economic reform program which was efficiently and successfully put into effect by the former government, led by my brother Kamal Hasan 'Ali. [applause] We will redouble efforts, marshal resources, and streamline consumption to give a big impetus to development in all its aspects. The objectives of the 5-year plan will remain the same. There will be no change in the laws and regulations governing economic activity except to the extent that this facilitates, encourages, and protects such activity. This applies to private and public investment as well as to financial transactions. I want to emphasize this point and stress that there will be no room for any surprises or sudden jolts that might upset the expectations of those working in national and foreign investment and financial sectors. Incentives and facilities will be continually increased. It is our unchanging policy to safeguard the public interest and also the interests of all those who participate in Egypt's development and reconstruction.

Together with the importance we accord to economic stability, we would like to emphasize that there will be no interference with the favorable price treatment [tashilat si'riyah] of commodities consumed by the low-income groups. This is a privilege they should enjoy in order to maintain their dignity in a society which believes in communal responsibility.

Speaker of the People's Assembly; brothers and sisters, members of the esteemed Assembly. In his letter of designation of 4 September, the president of the Republic referred to indications that pointed out how important the coming stage is for economic transformation and progress, a stage in which we should make great strides because of the nature of the challenges we confront. The president ennumerated the government's executive duties during this stage in his letter.

In order to achieve the goals noted therein, the government commits itself to the following:

A. To tell the masses in all frankness about the challenges we are confronting and how we intend to deal with them.

B. To explain to the masses that political participation in economic and social development through the various legitimate channels makes the citizen a responsible party, together with the government and all constitutional institutions, to the implementation of policy and the achievement of goals because he is a partner of the government in strengthening its position and institutions.

C. To do away with exceptions. The government's organs undertake to set the example. There will be no room for favoritism or exceptions in the interest of individuals or factions. [applause]

D. To resist laziness and negligence because work and production show who the true Egyptian is.

E. To denounce any kind of corruption.

F. To ensure the supremacy of the law because all are equal before the law, and because this guarantees justice, equality, and equal opportunity.

G. To stress the importance of individual incentives so that the diligent may reap the fruit of his toil and sweat, and so that the lazy may realize that he must work as long as he is able to do so.

H. To seek in our legislation and decisions the interests and prosperity of the majority above all, and to protect the minority from the attempts to violate its rights.

Mr Speaker, brothers and sisters, members of the esteemed Assembly: The main features of the 1985 to 1986 plan are as follows:

Total local production should reach about 26.4 billion pounds, an increase of approximately 1.8 billion pounds over 1984-85 production.

Investments should reach approximately 7,755,600,000 pounds.

Private and government consumption should increase from approximately 22.2 billion pounds to approximately 23.5 billion pounds. This represents an average growth of 6 percent, or more than double the average of the population growth. Population growth is a little under 3 percent. This means an improvement in the actual standard of living of the citizen of about 3 percent.

In dealings with the outside world, the plan seeks to increase revenues by an average exceeding current payments in order to reduce the balance of payments deficit.

Mr Speaker, brothers and sisters, members of the esteemed Assembly: Permit me to present to you the government's policies for the realization of our national and regional goals. We are confident that through these policies, we will be able to deal with the challenges confronting us.

1. Financial policies: The only way to reduce the deficit in the state's general budget is to increase resources and rationalize expenses.

In regard to the subsidy, I want to emphasize that the government will not abolish the subsidy but will act to rationalize it. [applause] To be clear, the rationalization of the subsidy is intended to guarantee that the subsidy reaches those who deserve it and not others. We will tell you later how this will be cone. The government will submit a number of programs and measures to rationalize expenditure in the private and state services. The government will study with your esteemed Assembly the appropriate ways of making those capable of meeting the costs pay for the services they receive.

2. Monetary policy: The unusual conditions in the money market during the past 2 years have led to a continuous rise in the price of those foreign currencies which are in circulation in Egypt. The demand for these currencies increased and the supply decreased, for several reasons.

Brothers and sisters, members of this esteemed Assembly: An honest appraisal of the situation in the money market obliges us all to admit the following facts:

A. Last year's rise in the price of foreign currencies was not a natural one. There is no objective justification for this rise. Therefore, we expect it to be a temporary phenomenon. We hope it will vanish after the implementation of the economic policies and measures which the government has started to put into effect.

B. There is no doubt at all about the soundness and strength of the Egyptian economy. The production bases are becoming stronger and the main utilities are becoming more efficient.

C. Our capacity to meet production requirements is increasing annually.

D. We, like other developing and advanced states, are confronting a slump in the world market. This slump has led to a reduction in world trade and consequently to a reduction in world trade and a reduction in the price of basic commodities. This has adversely affected the value of those commodities that we export, mainly petroleum.

Because of the aforementioned conditions, we must agree on a number of policies to reduce demand for foreign currency.

3. Investment policy: Investors rightly demand the following: They demand that the government take a clearer stand on the private sector. They demand that declared policies be made more effective so that the implementation of projects may be facilitated. They demand that agreed recommendations for the simplification of measures be put into effect more quickly. They demand greater protection through governmental control of projects, particularly in the early stages of their implementation.

I do not have to emphasize that the government's stand has not changed. It expresses the main tenet of our economic policy, namely, that there is no restriction on the freedom of the private sector to invest in those fields which are deemed to be of value to society.

We seek to ensure that the investor need deal with one department only and that only one permit be required for investment.

4. The government's policy on labor and labor relations: In one of the gracious verses of his holy book, God Almighty mentions work sincerely undertaken and perfectly performed. In formulating its labor policies, the government seeks to increase production by providing more opportunities for productive employment. Young people will be given the chance to participate in production, construction, and development projects during the final stages of their education and during their annual vacations.

The government will submit a formula for conducting wage negotiations to management and worers. The objectives of such a formula are to increase the opportunities of the workers to make unlimited profits, to make these opportunities dependent on the level of production achieved, to make them available to producers only and withhold them from non-producers, and to prevent non-producers from continuing to make profits at the expense of the producers. [applause]

5. The use of available resources in the public works sector: The total revenue obtained from this sector by 30 June 1984 amounted to approximately 98 billion pounds. There are around 1.7 million workers in this sector. The government wishes to make very clear where it stands on these investments and what it expects from them. They must be maintained, the return on them must be increased, and those who work in public projects must be given the opportunity of earning more if they make a greater contribution to production and profits.

Mr Speaker, brother and sister members of the respected People's Assembly. Due to circumstances, the public investment sector is facing many basic challenges. In order to confront them effectively, we must stand together and cooperate with each other. The first of these challenges is the constant attack on public investment and the demand for its liquidation on the pretext that it represents a burden on development and on the state's budget. We must prove to everybody that this sector is making a growing contribution to development and is providing increasing support for the state's income. The second of these challenges is the claim that Egypt lacks men capable of successfully administering these projects because there are no proper facilities to train people for leadership. We must remove this pretext by speeding up the provision of facilities to enable Egypt's sons to utilize their skills and shoulder the task of exercising successful leadership of Egypt's public projects.

6. The completion of the current 5-year plan and initial preparations for the next 5-year plan: The government will complete the 5-year development plan, now in its fourth year, by reaching an overall investment of approximately 28 billion pounds in June 1986, God willing. The private sector has loyally and unhesitatingly contributed to the achievement of investment targets.

The government is now making initial preparations for the next 5-year plan, which is due to come into effect, God willing, in 1987 to 1988. We will complete the structuring of production bases. In this respect, the government will be committed to these principles:

To give priority to exploitation of resources in existing projects; to place emphasis on the necessity of depending on local production during building and operational phases; to encourage those projects which have clear advantages in terms of savings achieved; to give a strong impetus to the major areas of food production; to rationalize the investment costs of projects; to stimulate development of the countryside; and to call on the private sector to undertake unlimited participation in initiating projects necessary for the achievement of development aims.

The principal objective which the government is seeking to attain is an increase in investments; this is necessary if we are to build more projects and achieve greater production. No intelligent person could envisage that we would put restrictions on investments when we need more of them. Whoever wants to invest, let him come forward regardless of whether he is known or not, Egyptian or not. I reiterate that our aim is that the government's support for investment should be limitless, whether this investment is public or private. We do not place restrictions on it, nor do we differentiate between investors. Our declared and undeclared aims are the same, namely, increasing support for Egypt's production bases.

The principles and measures to which the government is committed in support of the private sector can be summed up as follows:

There are, and there will be, no restrictions on private investments; the door is open to whoever wants to invest, in whatever sphere of economic activity because this will contribute to national production; our role as a government is not to exercise custodianship over the private sector, but merely to provide guidance and assistance; the government does not oversee or scrutinize the private sector's profits. On the contrary, we are proud of those who make profits because this is proof of success, and success in any economic activity is success for Egypt as a whole. All we are asking is that each one of us pays his taxes. These taxes are not in fact high when compared with those in other countries.

7. Increasing the efficiency of the distribution sector: Since the end of World War II, many essential commodities have undergone regular price increases so high that these commodities are now beyond the consumers' resources. This issue was discussed

for a number of years under the slogan of rationalizing the subsidies. The burden borne by the state's budget has become a chapter apart. It has grown annually and subsidies have now reached more than 2 billion pounds annually.

Allow me to present to you the framework that will govern our policy on this issue.

A. The subsidy for low-income groups must be retained.

B. It is necessary to lift the subsidy from those who are financially able once your respected Assembly agrees on the definition of the term financially able and on the best way of lifting the subsidy for these people.

C. Subsidized commodities must not reach the hands of middlemen, who will trade with them and make a profit at the expense of public funds.

D. We must set a timetable to improve purchasing, packaging, warehousing, and distribution facilities so that we may bring down the cost of subsidies.

Another problem facing this sector is controlling the prices of essential and semi-essential commodities. This is a basic problem for the producer, merchant, and consumer. It is also basic to achieving social peace. Prices can be ultimately controlled if we are successful in specific areas: We must increase national production, direct the surplus income of financially able families toward production by providing a stable environment for investment and consolidating the investors' confidence in the present and future of the Egyptian economy, reach an acceptable formula to define a reasonable profit margin for middlemen, and encourage market competition by fostering the establishment of institutions that can reach the consumer.

No sincere Egyptian, and consequently the NDP government, can keep silent about the artificial price increases. The government will talk calmly with producers and distributors to review production and ditribution costs. We do not and will not accept unfair prices for the producer or allow the consumer to be exploited.

8. The government's policy on agriculture and food production: With its proud civilization and the determination of its sons, Egypt is facing a clear challenge: To provide food for its population which increases annually by about 1.25 million. This challenge requires a number of commitments from the government, all of which are aimed at mobilizing resources to increase agricultural production.

9. The government's policy on the protection of national industry and on increasing industrial production: The largest industrial base in the Middle East is in Egypt. This base includes approximately 9,000 industrial establishments in which the public sector alone is investing around 55 billion pounds overall. This sector is providing the major portion of labor opportunities each year. This sector also includes human expertise, skills, and resources capable of increasing the national product without any additional investments, if we marshal our efforts to bring about the great awakening called for by the president — an awakening by all those involved in industrial production, an awakening by those who make it possible for the national industries to function free of obstacles and illegal competition.

The coming stage must bring speedy development and real achievement in the field of manufacturing equipment, spare parts, and basic chemicals. There can be no real industrialization without the ability to manufacture these products. There must be intensive efforts and special care to develop skilled labor, particularly in the specialized fields where there is an increasing demand for them. Hence, we will submit to your respected Assembly a plan to set up the national fund for training, which will oversee the national plan to develop and prepare the manpower needed by the industrial sector.

10. The government's housing policy: The number of housing units that must be built during the remaining years of the current and the next 5-year plans in order to eliminate the housing problem is 2.4 million units; that is, at the rate of 400,000 units a year.

The government's commitments are as follows:

The government and the local government organs will prepare detailed plans for the areas to be provided with services and to be sold to societies, labor unions, owners' associations, and individuals according to the following regulations:

A. The sale to be at cost price only and this cost to be limited to the services, thus the government will provide the land free [applause];

B. Each labor union, society, and owners' association will be allocated a number of lots equal to the number of members.

The government is committed to the building of the necessary utilities for these areas. The government is committed to increasing the funds for the housing bank to be loaned to individuals and cooperatives. It will assume partial building costs for low-income groups; that is, besides the free land, we will assume part of the building cost and the person needing the unit will pay the rest in easy installments in line with his present and future income. The government will also encourage the setting up of financial institutions specializing in cooperative housing and the integrated housing compounds. The government cannot pledge to provide houses for financially able people but it will encourage the private sector to provide such houses at a price that is not exorbitant and to fix rents compatible with the required return from investment costs.

11. The government's policy for promoting energy production and rationalizing its use: The energy problem in Egypt stems from the tremendous increase in the use of energy and petroleum derivatives. This clearly confirms that we are approaching a state of affairs characterized by the following:

A. A lack of sufficient energy to operate the basic productive sectors — agriculture, industry, and transportation.

B. The exhaustion of petroleum, a basic energy source, due to the continuing increase in annual consumption rates.

We must speed up measures in three closely connected areas to deal with this situation.

First, the use of electricity and petroleum derivatives in all production sites, services, and houses must be rationalized. Second, the implementation of projects to obtain energy from other sources must be accelerated. Third, exploration and the search for oil and coal must be encouraged in order to boost strategic reserves of energy resources.

You have our pledge that within the broad outlines of this plan decisions will be made and programs established which will be carried out in succession. The results of these programs will be evaluated gradualiy.

As for the production of energy from other sources, we assure your esteemed Assembly that we will undertake the following: The stepping up of coal production projects, and the completion of studies pertaining to nuclear power stations. We will ensure that the most stringent safety precautions are taken, make accurate economic assessments, and develop Egyptian skills and expertise. We will make increased use of solar energy, particularly since we now have several factories producing solar heaters.

12. The government's policy on land reclamation: Given our conviction that the government should treat the production of foodstuffs as a priority, we are determined to make greater efforts and overcome obstacles in order to provide better guidance for the land reclamation plan. Our policy in this regard is based on the following principles:

We are committed to improving the land reclamation process and so that more land is made available for agriculture. This should not be less than 200,000 fedans annually. We must provide maximum incentives to encourage private investment in land reclamation. We must ensure that the money which is spend on land reclamation is used in the best possible way. We must not hesitate to amend legislation and decisions which impede the transfer of the ownership of land suitable for reclamation to those capable of supplying the necessary investment for this. The state's role must be confined to the provision of encouragment for investment in land reclamation.

13. The government's policy for tourism: Egypt, in terms of facilities and political atmosphere, is now ready to obtain a larger share in world tourism and increase its foreign currency revenues.

14. The government's policy for transport and communications: Publicly owned concerns, along with the private sector, have the responsibility of providing transportation of passengers and goods in a proper manner and at an acceptable cost. The government, through its own enterprises and by keeping in touch with the private sector, is making painstaking efforts to improve services and maintain the tariff at a reasonable level.

15. The government's policy in the field of education: This policy can be summed up as follows:

A. [as heard] The number of pupils between the ages of 6 and 15 years is about 10,470,000 in 1985. The schools can absorb 7,381,000 pupils only, in other words, about 73.5 percent. We have resorted to raising the number of children in any one class to 50. We are fully aware that this will affect the effeciency of educational output. However, our choice so far has been either to let the illiteracy rate increase and keep the children without any education at all, or accept the rise in the number of pupils in a class.

Our solution for the next stage lies in implementing an urgent plan to double our investment in the building of schools. This requirement is made more pressing by the fact that 38 percent of existing educational buildings need to be completely renovated. In other words, these buildings are no longer fit for educational use. The investment needed for this purpose will amount to 3 billion pounds over the next 10 years, that is, 300 million pounds annually. Out of this, 200 million pounds will be allocated to buildings and the rest to land and equipment.

The government certainly cannot provide such a huge annual investment. Consequently, we appealed and continue to appeal to all citizens to contribute, each according to his means, to making up the difference between the annual requirement and what the state can provide. We will submit to your esteemed Assembly the formula which has been drawn up for the organization of this participation process.

This, however, should not be interpreted to mean that we are heading toward the abolition of free education. Free education will remain and will continue. This is a firm and irrevocable commitment on the part of the government. What I am saying today merely constitutes an appeal to those who are able to participate with us in building schools.

16. The government's policy on promoting university education and scientific research services: Egypt has a scientific base, represented in a group of scientific research centers. These centers are part of the academy for scientific research, where an elite of Egyptian scientists look forward to taking part in the confrontation of society's problems and giving momentum to the wheel of production. The government is committed to referring those problems facing the production and service sectors to the scientific research centers through direct contracts. These centers will be assigned the task of supervising the implementation of the results of the various researches.

17. The government's policy on strengthening the capabilities of our armed forces:

Speaker of the People's Assembly, brothers and sisters, members of the esteemed Assembly: Dear Egypt has been the target of invasions and ambitious people. It continues to be the target of hostile people and those who imagine that they can threaten the homeland's security or cross its borders. History has taught us always to adhere to peace and never to start an aggression. It has also taught us to be prepared to repulse invaders and aggressors. Therefore, building a military capable of defending the homeland is the responsibility of every Egyptian who desires a dignified life for himself and his progeny.

The valiant Armed Forces have proved that they are this nation's shield which protects it from the evils of aggressors. They are the deterrent force for routing usurpers, and the honest guardian of Egypt's economic structure from any sabotage attempts. [applause] The services rendered by the Armed Forces modernize and strengthen the foundation of Egyptian utilities and services. Therefore, the government commits itself to the following:

A. Providing the necessary funds to the Armed Forces to modernize the war industries, develop their resources, and increase the Egyptian share of their production.

B. Making the necessary decisions to provide sufficient flexibility to run these industries.

C. Meeting the Armed Forces' demands from all other sectors.

D. Fulfilling the Armed Forces' needs for materiel.

E. Developing their training facilities by strengthening the Armed Forces' training centers and institutions.

F. Supporting the Armed Forces' programs to prepare their sons to transfer to civilian jobs immediately upon completion of their military service.

18. The government's policy on internal security: This loyal and hospitable country has been subjected to an uninterrupted series of attempts to sabotage and attack the security of Egyptian citizens and their guests. These attempts are prompted, financed, and nourished by hostile people who realize the danger that stability, progress, and prosperity pose to them and their future. These attempts have assumed various forms and used various methods. The most modern methods to plot, infiltrate, and hire criminals were utilized. We do not believe that these attempts will stop because we are insisting on progress and taking quick steps to bolster Egypt's economy.

Therefore, the government commits itself to strengthening, supporting, and modernizing the internal security forces in order to abort these attempts at their inception. We have set priorities for this as follows:

A. Providing the expertise and the most modern technology to detect any attempt to infiltrate Egypt while still in its planning stage beyond the Egyptian border.

B. Securing the points of entry into Egypt and its vital installations.

C. Preparing a national program to protect the homeland against the planned invasion of the white poison and other forms of narcotics. We shall submit to you this month, God willing, the details of this program together with new draft laws to fight this danger.

D. Introducing radical changes in the Interior Ministry's services so that the citizens can clearly perceive an improvement in the quality of services such as the granting of drivers licenses, issue of work permits, collection of fees for work permits, and maintenance of civil records. The changes also include strengthening the maritime police and modernizing their equipment to implement the deterrent measures contained in the laws to protect agricultural lands and the Nile waters from any aggression.

The study of the economic feasibility of substituting mobile security units for stationary ones will be completed this year. This is to better utilize human resources and increase the effectiveness of security activities.

19. The government's policy on cultural matters.

20. The government's policy on construction and the establishment of new construction sites: The government has successfully constructed new cities, which now include new facilities for Egyptian industry and are attracting a new population. We will continue to help the expansion of these cities, particularly by:

A. Speeding up the planning of beltways around the cities adjacent to the desert.

B. Encouraging the private sector to invest in the planning, establishment, and development of these new industrial and population areas.

C. Speeding up implementation of the main service projects which will expedite investment in the new areas.

D. The biggest group of water pumping stations and sanitary sewage systems in the history of Egypt are now being implemented. These stations and systems cost 8 billion pounds.

21. Support for the role of Al-Azhar and patronage of the religious and awqaf institutions: Egypt has always defended religious values and patronized religious institutions. It has, and will continue to uphold freedom of worship and support the application of Islamic law. Holy Al-Azhar will always remain a beacon of Islamic thought and study, and a citadel of the Arab language and literature. Al-Azhar has a historical position and leading role in the Islamic world. Therefore, the government commits itself to the following:

A. To support the role of holy Al-Azhar and provide all the resources necessary for it to convey its message to Egypt and the Arab and Islamic world.

B. To help Al-Azhar University and support its activities.

C. To take a comprehensive inventory of the places of worship and implement a comprehensive plan to provide for their needs.

D. To support the sincere efforts being exerted to spread Islamic culture and preserve Islamic relics.

E. To draft a plan to protect awqaf land and funds from any tampering. We will submit the necessary legislation to you.

22. The government's policy on social welfare and insurance: The government committed itself to implementing the first integrated economic and social development plan in the 1960's. Its objective was to achieve certain economic and social goals because the

government believed that social welfare should be provided for the citizens. We are now planning to expand the cottage industry project to include the establishment of an efficient, liberal, and flexible organization in order to provide raw material, equipment, and sufficient training for those who wish to start new small cottage industries.

23. The government's policy on judiciary and legal affairs: The judiciary has constitutional powers equal to those of the executive and legislative branches. Its independence is a main characteristic of our democratic system which spreads stability and justice. Therefore, the government is acting to provide the appropriate atmosphere for the judiciary to exercise its powers and jurisdiction. The government is pursuing the plan to build court complexes and the development of court procedure including the establishment of a judicial information bank.

24. The government's policy in the field of information: The media are among the main methods for informing the citizens of current events. The masses should be enlightened so that they can mobilize and rally around the various issues with which the state deals. In this way each citizen may undertake, out of conviction and loyalty, to implement the government's decisions to benefit both himself and the homeland.

In the field of information, the government commits itself to the following:

We will provide the necessary funds to support the efforts of the media.

We will adhere to the national goals in planning and implementing information programs, particularly the realization of freedom of speech.

We will help to develop the abilities of those working in the information field.

We will scientifically, impartially, and objectively resist the attempts to belittle the importance of Egyptian achievements and the Egyptian experiment in economic and social development.

The media campaign supporting our schools' efforts to educate students will continue. We will respond to the increasing demand for new knowledge in strengthening family ties and protecting the youth.

The government is committed to helping world media representatives uncover the facts, learn about the aspects of progress, and understand the conditions that lead to inadequacy.

The government pledges to provide the necessary resources for the general information authority and the information offices abroad to spread their message in defending Egypt's bright image.

25. The government's policy on health care and population growth: Within the framework of health services, the government is committed to the following:

A. Speeding up the provision of funds to develop the basic services related to general health. The most important of these are water and sanitary drainage facilities.

B. Providing the necessary funds to develop the existing national foundation that is capable of producing vaccines to launch a national campaign to inoculate children against the major diseases.

C. Planning to promote the effeciency of national child care campaigns.

D. Seeking a formula to develop the resources of government hospitals.

E. Replanning health services in order to place the burden on health units and central hospitals.

F. Developing the services provided by the hospitals and units that accept health insurance.

G. Reiterating cooperation between university hospitals and scientific research centers, and the Ministery of Health medical centers.

H. Subsidizing and supporting the national medical industry.

I. The Ministry of Health is responsible for providing up-to-date service in the field of family planning.

26. The government's policy on improving Cabinet work: The Cabinet is responsible for planning the work of the ministerial committees, supervising environment protection, and providing data on the performance of the public sector. Our commitments to improve this work are represented in the following:

The government realizes that the achievements of the Cabinet and its committees basically depend on the efficiency of services such as the availability of data from studies of the proposed issues, the completion of various studies, and so forth. Therefore, the government supports the effort to establish a data bank in the Cabinet. A computer will be installed in the next few months. The computer will be capable of storing all studies on Egyptian economic and social issues made during the past 20 years; retrieving any study on any project proposed for discussion by the Cabinet or its committees; storing, classifying, comparing, retrieving, and presenting presidential and ministerial decrees, ministerial committee resolutions, and prime minister's decisions; and finally storing various legislation, explanatory notes, and executive regulations.

An integrated plan for protecting the environment and natural and human resources from the dangers of pollution is currently being implemented.

27. The government's policy on administrative development and development of government services: The government pays special attention to achieving concrete progress in developing the services provided by government organs and bodies.

28. The government's policy on supporting local development and cooperative societies: Local development occupies a special place in the government's program. It embodies the importance of communication and solidarity between the central authorities and the governorates, and between the people and the government in order to achieve a well-grounded development. Process the current reality is completely different from that of the early 1960's. This reality is marked by great economic and human forces outside the major cities. This fact imposes the following commitments on the government toward the countryside:

A. Encouraging democratic practice as represented in local and popular councils.

B. Assisting each governorate to prepare a local development plan that includes all production and service sectors.

C. Supporting the efforts made in developing agricultural production and exploiting natural resources.

D. Encouraging individual initiative and contribution to the development of basic services such as transport, education, and health services.

E. Intensifying efforts to promote health care in the countryside.

29. The government's policy on water resources: Egypt's water resources are its lifeline and the main basis for our ability to achieve the required agricultural production, complete the desert reclamation plan, and obtain electricity from hydroelectric stations. We will devote our efforts to the following projects in the coming stage. We will:

A. Conclude construction of irrigation canals.

B. Complete the main pumping stations.

C. Finish the projects to clean canals and drainage systems.

D. Continue joint efforts with the riparian countries of the Nile to control the river's waters.

E. Strictly implement the People's Assembly legislation to protect the waters and courses of the Nile River.

F. Complete the studies on the amount and sources of underground water.

G. Complete the studies on projected dams and barrages.

H. Complete the studies on the coastal rain-fed areas and the projects needed to utilize this water source.

30. The government's policy on youth and sports: The government will do the following:

A. Support sports and social activities in schools and universities, including during vacation periods.

B. Establish neighborhood sports facilities and social clubs.

C. Draw up an integrated plan to prepare school students for productive work.

D. Study the possibility of setting up an army of workers for those who want to help rebuild Egypt during their vacation periods, and direct organized teams from this army to carry out major projects that need organized labor.

31. The government's policy on looking after the interests of Egyptians abroad: The government will not place restrictions on the travel abroad of any Egyptian for the purpose of work. I must be clear in this connection: If any government employee desires to work abroad, we will encourage him to do it. If any public sector employee desires to work abroad, the government will not interfere. We have repeatedly declared that public sector management is free to establish the form of relationship it wants with the workers.

32. Foreign Policy: Egypt's role in the region was emphasized last year. The current situation attests to the true course of history; namely, that Egypt has been and will remain the heart that throbs with love for the Arab nation. It proves that Egypt wants this nation to enjoy peace and security, that it is true to this nation's right to a free and secure life, and that it defends this nation against any attempts to usurp its right to prosperity. Egypt's African roots were also confirmed. Our civilization and culture are interlinked and are nourished by the main waterways spread throughout the African continent to link neighbors, deepen fellow feelings, and confirm our common destiny.

It also became clear that Egypt, which established the first university in the world and fully nurtured it so that it could foster the sciences of the true Islamic religion, deserves to receive full love and attention from the Islamic states, and to be allowed to contribute constantly to the activities of the Islamic Conference.

It was confirmed to the world that Egypt, which has always been peaceful and yet has been attacked, will remain a peace-loving state. It is eager to deepen the roots of peace, insistently rejects wars, and supports all sincere efforts to settle disputes peacefully. It will undertake any risk imposed by the search for peaceful solutions to problems among states that support the brothers whose land has been usurped, whose families have been displaced, and who have been expelled from their homes. Therefore, the government pledges the following:

A. It will totally fulfill its commitments to the Arab nation because it realizes that this is an inevitable commitment dictated by the bonds of a common blood and a common destiny. We shall support Arab rights and we shall continue to participate in Arab development plans and in Arab economic and social organizations. We shall very resolutely defend joint Arab endeavours in the cultural, developmental, and social fields, and join hands to negotiate the restoration of the fraternal Palestinian people's rights.

B. It will back and support development, modernization, and stability in fraternal Sudan. We are brothers and comrades in daily life and destiny.

C. It will strengthen African organizations and institutions.

D. It will support all efforts to achieve peace in the region and even to take the initiative in foiling attempts to destroy the prospects of peace. We will never flag in our work and sacrifice for the sake of peace. We are aware that our efforts to achieve peace will exact a high price. However, we firmly believe that the blessing of peace is worth the price.

E. It will support our friends' efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war.

F. It will continue to support UN organizations and respect their charters.

G. It will step up efforts to consolidate ties with all friendly states, particularly those that have been forthcoming in helping Egypt solve its problems and supporting our bid to achieve the targets of development.

Mr Speaker, members of the distinguished People's Assembly: In the past few months Egypt has been subjected to the fiercest campaign in its modern history. This campaign has been led by the enemies of Mubarak's Egypt — independent Egypt, principled and pure Egypt, developing Egypt, and proud Egypt — the Egypt of hope for the progress and prosperity of the people of the region.

Regrettably, some international organizations have participated in this campaign, both knowingly and unknowingly. Wittingly or not, some Egyptians have picked up this campaign.

Therefore, before I conclude my statement, I put before you a picture of the economic situation in its entirety.

1. As the president has affirmed, Egypt possesses the largest production base in the Middle East. We have invested about 200 billion pounds in this production base, which comprises agriculture, industry, and other related sectors.

2. Egypt has the largest base of specialists, technicians, and trained labor in the Middle East. The Egyptian labor force in Egypt and the Arab region is about 14 million people.

3. About 10 million students are currently attending Egyptian educational establishments. Near the end of this century these will become an educated and trained working force capable of operatingproduction bases in Egypt.

4. Egypt is currently renovating and modernizing its industrial base. Production projects in all fields are opening daily.

5. Scientists who quietly work on uses for modern technology, study problems, and find solutions for them.

6. Many hidden resources are being discovered in Egypt daily. These resources augment the reserve of available strategic materials.

7. Egypt possesses one-sixth of the world's antiquities. They prove the Egyptian people's advances in science. They are also absolute proof of the Egyptian people's talent for innovation and invention.

8. Egypt possesses over 2 million feddans of lands that can be reclaimed. There is enough water to irrigate these lands. By using modern agricultural methods, these new lands can produce more than what we get from the old lands.

Mr Speaker, members of the distinguished Assembly: Responsibility dictates that I declare from this podium that Egypt now is stronger than ever. Egypt in the future under President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will be stronger, God willing.

I know very well that these facts will not please the spiteful but will only increase their spite and hate. However, God willing, we will move forward with our heads high, achieving progress and prosperity.

In reply to the allegations by these spiteful persons, allow me to declare from this podium:

1. Egypt's debts total $24.2 billion. With all honesty I say that these debts are small compared with Egypt's investment in production. These debts represent the principal sums and the interest due on them until the date of settlement. Settlement is taking place annually and gradually and will continue until the year 2010.

2. Some people have asked where Egypt's borrowing has gone. This money has been used to build bases to increase industrial and agricultural production. In other words, funds have become productive projects in Egypt.

3. Stable Egypt — and this government which I am honored to head — pledges not to submit to your legislative council any bill with retroactive effect. We will not adopt any decision with retroactive effect. Rather, we will revise those decisions that have been issued with retroactive effect.

This government promises to your Assembly that next month, God willing, it will issue lists of fields for and places of investment. When an investor submits a request to establish a project, we will license him to start work immediately without awaiting approval. It will be stated on the application form that this is a license the effects of which apply to all the governmental departments that issue licenses. [applause]

This government is committed not to introduce secret tax amendments. This will put an end to speculation about the issuance of secret amendments. We will not embark on such acts. We advocate enlightment and understanding. [applause]

I conclude my statement with a saying from the Holy Koran: "Work: Soon God will observe your work, and his Apostle, and the believers." May God's peace and mercy be with you. [applause]

Planes Attack 'Large Maritime Target' 3 Dec

JN031211 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1202 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Dec (INA) — Iraqi fighter planes launched a successful raid on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast today.

Announcing this a short while ago, a military spokesman said that the Iraqi planes hit the target accurately and effectively at 1255 [0955 GMT] today and returned safely to base.

The spokesman stressed that this raid aims at shattering the useless hopes the Iranian regime is pinning on its resources in continuing aggression against Iraq.

Over 50 Iranians Killed in Central Sector 2 Dec

JN031017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1007 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Dec (INA) — Iraqi forces have crushed an Iranian force which tried to approach the Iraqi positions in the central sector last night.

INA has learned from a military source today that the Iranian force sustained over 50 killed and others wounded, while the rest fled. The source stressed that the Iraqi side did not sustain any mentionable losses.

Communique on 2 Dec Khark Raid, Shellings

JN021734 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Communique No 2,040 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 2 December 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To defend great Iraq and protect its sovereignty and security and the prosperity of its citizens at present and in the future, our valiant Armed Forces continue their heroic confrontation of the gang of tyranny and aggression. Our Armed Forces are ready to wipe out any foolhardy adventure the criminal Iranian rulers may think of carrying out at any time and anywhere. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In implementation of our legitimate right to destroy the sources of aggression and to punish the Iranian regime for its crime of pursuing the policy of war and aggression, our giant Air Force planes carried out a successful new raid on Khark Island at 1300 today. After accurately pounding their targets, the hero eagles of the air safely and triumphantly returned to the homeland under God's protection.

2. Our forward units in the II Army Corps central sector pounded enemy troop concentrations and personnel positions, killing three, wounding many, and destroying five infantry positions and one observation post.

3. Our formations dealt effective artillery blows to enemy units opposite their positions in the III Army Corps sector east of Basrah, inflicting losses in life and equipment on them. Elsewhere in the same sector other units destroyed one infantry position and one observation post, and killed one enemy soldier.

4. One vehicle was set on fire in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris, and one excavator was destroyed and one bulldozer hit in the VII Army Corps sector.

5. The criminal enemy shelled Al-Faw with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 December 1985

Paper Says Iran To Abandon Khark Terminal

JN020950 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Dec (INA) — The newspaper *AL JUMHURIYAH* has emphasized that the devastating Iraqi air strikes against Khark Island have forced the Iranian regime to officially announce its abandonment of the island's oil-exporting terminal.

In an editorial today, the paper says that this admission reflects in itself the degree of success achieved by the Iraqi Air Force in destroying Iran's vital interests, headed by Khark Island, through which 85 percent of Iran's oil is exported. The paper adds: The Iraqi strikes did not only destroy the island's installation and jetties, but also disrupted all the efforts made by the competent Iranian institutions to repair what was destroyed and resume pumping oil, whose suspension constituted a real economic disaster inflicted on Iran and added to its military disasters.

The paper said that the Iranian rulers' official announcement of their abandonment of Khark Island and their search for an alternative emphasizes that Iran can no longer endure more of the destructive Iraqi strikes which became a source of panic and anxiety for the Tehran rulers who know that Iraq's striking arm is so long that it can reach the mainstays of aggression wherever they are, in the Arab Gulf waters or in Iran itself.

The paper wonders if the Iranian rulers are looking for other islands from which to export their oil and whether they are trying to lay new oil pipelines in order to replace the destroyed ones, and says: They must realize that these islands and any other alternatives are not farther or more fortified than Tehran which the Iraqi aircraft raided scores of times and where selected targets were hit.

Conc'uding, the paper says: Iraq's destruction of all the Iranian military, economic, and scientific institutions and interests will continue more fiercely in order to reach new targets whose destruction will divest the Iranian regime of the pillars of their aggression and force them to yield to justice and accept peace.

CSSR Premier Strougal, Delegation Arrive on Visit

JN292114 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] CSSR Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal arrived in Baghdad this evening heading a delegation on a visit to Iraq at the invitation of Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister. The CSSR premier was accorded an official welcome at Saddam International Airport. Taha Yasin Ramadan and Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and a number of ministers headed those welcoming the guest.

The CSSR premier made a statement in which he expressed deep pleasure at visiting Iraq. He affirmed feelings of pride and admiration for Iraq under President Saddam Husayn. He noted that he was carrying greetings to the president from the CSSR president, government, and people.

Talks Begin 30 Nov

JN301547 Baghdad INA in English 1537 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 30, INA — Talks between Iraq and Czechoslovakia started here today under the co-chairmanship of Iraq's first deputy prime minister, Taha Yasin Ramadan, and the visiting Yugoslav [as received] prime minister, Lubomir Strougal.

Both sides reviewed scopes of bilateral relations in political, economic, trade, and technical fields, and expressed satisfaction over the developed relations between the two countries. The talks also covered the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and issues of mutual interest.

Husayn, Strougal Meet

JN301738 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal this evening. They discussed the cordial relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote them, as well as the Iraqi-Iranian war and Iraq's peaceful stand based on principle of international law. They also discussed the Palestine question, the situation in the Arab region, and the international situation in general. CSSR Minister of Foreign Trade Bohumil Urban accompanied CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal. Attending the meeting were First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, the president's secretary, the Iraqi ambassador in Prague, and the CSSR ambassador in Baghdad.

Tariq 'Aziz, Strougal Confer

JN021236 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1200 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with CSSR Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal this morning. They reviewed bilateral relations, the situation in the region, and issues of mutual interest.

Wisam al-Zahawi, Foreign Ministry under secretary; Jindrich Rehorek, CSSR first deputy minister of foreign affairs; the Iraqi ambassador in Prague; and the CSSR ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Cooperation Minutes Signed

JN021801 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Iraq and the CSSR signed the minutes of an agreement on economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation today. The minutes organize the bases for trade between the two countries, the participation of CSSR enterprises in a number of Iraqi development projects, and exchange of expertise in the technical and scientific fields.

Attending the signing ceremony were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; CSSR Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal; and Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

The minutes were signed for Iraq by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and for the CSSR by Minister of Foreign Trade Bohumil Urban. Also attending the signing ceremony were Subhi Yasin, minister of industry and minerals; a number of Iraqi officials of the relevant ministries; members of the CSSR delegation; the Iraqi ambassador in Prague; and the CSSR ambassador in Baghdad.

Talks End; Strougal Departs

JN021711 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1600 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Iraq and the CSSR ended their official talks here at noon today. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, headed the Iraqi side to the talks while CSSR Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal headed the CSSR side. The talks dealt with the advanced relations between the two friendly countries and ways of promoting them in all fields and the latest developments in the Iraq-Iran war and the international stand on it. There was an exchange of viewpoints on Arab and international issues, and topics of mutual interest were discussed.

In speeches they exchanged on the occasion, Taha Yasin Ramadan and Dr Lubomir Strougal expressed satisfaction with the relations between the two countries and with the results of the talks between the two sides. They also reiterated their respective countries' desire to expand the basis of their relations and cooperation in line with the solid relations of friendship between them.

Dr Lubomir Strougal expressed satisfaction with his talks with President Saddam Husayn. He reiterated his country's desire to increase its cooperation with Iraq in all fields and praised Iraq's current march of progress and construction in all fields.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Subhi Yasin, minister of industry and minerals; the under secretaries of the ministries of foreign affairs and

light industries; other officials; and the Iraqi ambassador in Prague. The CSSR side comprised (Jandrech Refor), CSSR first deputy minister of foreign trade; the first deputy minister of the Ministry of Light Industries; experts; and the CSSR ambassador in Baghdad.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received CSSR Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal this morning. During the meeting the two sides discussed relations between the two countries and ways of promoting them, the Iraq-Iran war, and Arab and international issues. The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; the CSSR minister of foreign trade; and the Iraqi ambassador in Prague and the CSSR ambassador in Baghdad.

CSSR Premier Dr Lubomir Strougal and his delegation left Baghdad for home today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. During the visit, Dr Strougal met with President Saddam Husayn and held talks with several Iraqi officials on the various aspects of Iraqi-CSSR relations and ways of promoting them in the interests of the two friendly countries and their people.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, Hasan 'Ali, ministers, and the two countries' ambassadors in Baghdad and Prague saw Dr Strougal and his delegation off.

Transport Minister Returns From Egypt

JN272024 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Minister of Transport and Communications 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim and his delegation returned to Baghdad today at the conclusion of a 1-week visit to Egypt.

In a statement upon arrival, the Iraqi minister said that during the visit he signed a draft agreement with Egypt and Jordan in the navigation field and on establishing the Arab Maritime Bridge Company. This company will be in charge of the maritime line between the port of Nuwaybi' in Egypt and the Jordanian port of Aqaba to achieve the objectives of the agreement signed by the three states.

The Iraqi minister noted that he discussed with his Egyptian and Jordanian counterparts the establishment of an Arab land transportation company to link the Arab east with the Arab Maghreb. He added that the basic principles of establishing a land transportation company among these three countries were studied.

King Husayn Addresses Military College Graduates

JN271525 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Speech by King Husayn at graduation ceremony held at the Royal Staff and Command College in Amman on 27 November and carried within the "Newsreel" program — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother officers, honorable gathering. I greet you as beloved brothers and comrades in arms and congratulate you with all feelings of love, happiness, and pride for your worthy and successful completion of a training course at the Royal Staff and Command College. I congratulate you for graduating from this higher military institute, the object of our pride, appreciation, concern, and attention.

You undoubtedly share my satisfaction and happiness at the honest determination, good intentions, and serious efforts that have begun to loom on the horizon and which herald the unification of ranks and rallying of resources in confronting the challenges and the external and internal dangers threatening the nation. It gives me pleasure to proudly say that we in Jordan play a prominent role in heralding these things. We hope that they will grow, widen, and spread as a bright light that removes the darkness that has prevailed in our Arab world in the past years.

Brother officers, while talking about our contribution to the unification of ranks and rallying of resources in our wide Arab world, I will not miss the opportunity to refer to our Jordanian Armed Forces as one of the elements of power and unification thanks to the message that they carry, the message of the great Arab revolution, and the Jordanian Army's slogan which stresses the unity of the Arab objective and trend.

We will always seek, with God's help, to strengthen these forces and continue to build up their capabilities through continuous training, the enhancement of the efficiency of their officers, NCO's, and men, and through the supply of sophisticated arms and equipment despite the hardships and obstacles we are facing.

We are confident that this Arab army will never dissociate itself from its nation as it has never done in the past due to its deep awareness and honest affiliation. It will remain a steadfast bastion in confronting the outburst of Zionist expansion toward the Arab east.

Let us always remember that the first cause of tension in the region is the absence of Palestinian rights and the occupation of Arab Jerusalem, and that Israel's military strength is the factor denying these rights and perpetuating that occupation.

Energy Cooperation Accord With Syria Approved

LD302113 Kuwait KUNA in English 1423 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Amman, Nov 30 (KUNA) — The Jordanian Government has approved an agreement for cooperation in the energy field between Jordan and Syria, official sources said Saturday.

The sources told KUNA that the agreement calls for cooperation in the electrical power projects between the two Arab countries, particularly in areas near the joint borders in both countries.

The agreement is part of the current efforts to normalize bilateral relations decided after two meetings in Jeddah and Riyadh between prime ministers of Syria and Jordan last September and October which were followed by a visit to Damascus by the Jordanian premier early this month.

Al-Rifa'i Confers With Egyptian Minister

JN021256 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 2 dec 85

[Text] Amman —Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office at the Prime Ministry this morning Engineer William Najib Sayfayn, Egyptian minister of state for emigration and Egyptians abroad. They discussed relations in the field of organizing the use of manpower and ways to promote them in a way that serves the joint interest of the citizens of the two fraternal countries in light of the results of the higher joint Jordanian-Egyptian committee. Attending the meeting were Engineer Khalid al-Haj Hasan, minister of labor and social development; Ihab Wahbah, the Egyptian ambassador in Amman; and the delegation accompanying the guest minister.

The minister of labor and social development met with the guest Egyptian minister today. They exchanged views on the Jordanian-Egyptian relations in various fields, particularly promoting the use of manpower.

Somali Foreign Affairs Minister Arrives on Visit

JN021501 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1425 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Amman, 2 Dec (PETRA) — Muhammad Ali Hamud, Somali minister of state for foreign affairs and the special envoy of His Excellency Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, arrived in Amman today on an official visit to Jordan which will last 4 days. During the visit, he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his excellency the Somali president and hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern in the Arab and international arenas.

In a statement to journalists upon arrival, the Somali minister hailed His Majesty King Husayn's efforts in the Arab and international arenas to achieve Arab solidarity and serve the Arab causes. He also hailed the strong fraternal relations between Somalia and Jordan, pointing out that they are based on mutual respect and sincere pan-Arab feelings.

The Foreign Ministry secretary general and the chief of protocol received the guest minister.

AL-DUSTUR Warns Against Egypt, Libya Confrontation

JN020842 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
2 Dec 85 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "This Nation Has Enough Bleeding Wounds"]

[Excerpt] Although nobody now can compare the stand of Libya, which has not stopped inciting hostilities and provocations against its neighbors, to the stand of Egypt, which finds itself the target of a long series of provocations, all this must not lead to a fresh military confrontation between the two countries. The Arab situation cannot endure any further deterioration, and the Arab body can endure no further bleeding.

Despite our complete approval of Egypt's absolute right to defend its citizens and stop Libya's provocations against it, we, stemming from our understanding of Egypt's Arab role and responsibilities as a great sister, do not want to see the conspiracy that is aimed at Egypt, Libya, and the entire Arab nation succeed in dragging the two Arab neighbors into a military confrontation that serves only those who attempt to ignite it.

We call on Egypt, the great sister of the special pan-Arab responsibilities, to rise above the level of the misdeeds done to it. We understand its indignation and severe pain due to the ingratitude and great harm that its role and history are being met with. This requires us to call on those who are pouring oil on the fire of Arab differences to stop this dirty game. We also call on the Libyan leadership to stop this miserable course, which draws all the Arabs' hostility against it, even if this is done to foil the plans of those whom Libya accuses of plotting against Libya, Palestine, and the Arab nation.

AL-RA'Y Reacts to Shamir Remarks on Peace

JN300717 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 30 Nov 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Land in Exchange for Peace"]

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir has presented a clear summary of Israel's intentions toward the peace process in the region. He announced that the Zionist entity will not relinquish the occupied West Bank, Gaza, or Syrian territory under any future settlement.

What Shamir said means that Israel aims at aborting the peace process and emptying it of substance by asserting in advance that any negotiations, regardless of their form, will neither lead to regaining the Palestinian people's usurped territory nor allow them to exercise their right of self-determination.

These hostile intentions pit blatant defiance in the face of international principles. The real problem is no longer represented in the parties to negotiations or their form but in the premeditated Israeli insistence on devouring the usurped Palestinain and Syrian territory and on considering negotiations a process that has nothing to do with territory or Palestinian rights.

Suffice to say that this problem needs firm international action to make Israel accept the principle of land in exchange for peace. If Israel does not accept this principle or refuses to recognize it as a basis for negotiations, the peace process cannot be activated. Peres' vague statement, coupled with Shamir's hard-lined contrary statements, cannot be a substitute for recognition of this principle. The game of making contrary statements inside the Zionist entity government reinforces the conviction that Israel harbors evil intentions toward the peace process in the region.

Undoubtedly, U.S. policy is responsible for the continuation of Israeli rejection of the principle of land in exchange for peace. If U.S. policy continues to encourage the Israeli aggressors' intransigence and waste time, the regrettable consequences of squandering the last opportunity of peace in the region will not be confined to the area but will extend outside. Not many people will be safe from them.

In any event, the Arabs will neither submit or accept any settlement that is not based on the principle of land in exchange for peace.

President, Soviet Envoy Discuss Geneva Summit

NC290942 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil received Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov in the B'abda presidential palace at 1015 today.

After the meeting, Suslikov said: I delivered a message to the president from the Soviet leaders congratulating him on independence day. I briefed him on the Reagan-Gorbachev summit and we also discussed routine matters.

Birri Not Opposed to Brigade-Army Merger

NC301809 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction, has declined to give his views on the decision made by Camille Sham'un, acting minister of economy, trade, industry and oil to end the fuel subsidy.

In answer to another question on the security measures proposed for West Beirut, Birri declared that he is not opposed to bringing all soldiers and officers of the national brigades into the Lebanese Army to take over all areas, foremost among which would be West Beirut. It would thus be possible for us to send a large group of this army to the borders with Israel.

Junblatt Returns to Beirut From Damascus

NC020551 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0415 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt visited Damascus yesterday and met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam before returning to Beirut last night.

This meeting was preceded by one involving Junblatt, 'Asim Qansuh [secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon], and George Hawi [secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party].

Israeli Ships Continue Blockade of Tyre Harbor

NC301248 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] The Israelis are still blockading Tyre Port. Israeli military ships are preventing commercial vessels carrying food to the city from entering or leaving the harbor.

This morning, Israeli occupation forces positioned at Al-Shumariyah fired medium-caliber weapons at the Al-Shumariyah-Qa'qa'iyat al-Jisr road. A woman was wounded in the incident and traffic has come to a halt on this road.

Ships Forced to Other Ports

NC301615 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] AFP reported a short while ago that the Israeli enemy forces have prevented ships from entering the Port of Tyre. Four ships — one of them French, two flying the flag of Cyprus, and the fourth flying the flag of Turkey — are waiting for permission to enter the port so they can unload their freight. No explanations have been given for this measure. It was added that Israeli gunboats are now cruising off Tyre.

The French ship was prohibited entry 4 days ago. It is transporting 500 cars from Belgium.

Enemy gunboats forced the Turkish freighter to head for Al-Naqurah. The Israeli decision also obliged a number of ships to head for the Port of Sidon.

Sha'mun Ends Fuel Subsidy, Fixes Gasoline Price

NC292120 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Camille Sham'un, minister of finance, housing, and cooperatives, issued a decree today, ending the fuel subsidy and fixing the price for 20 liters of gasoline at 80 Lebanese pounds. In a statement explaining the measure, Minister Sham'un said: The Cabinet discussed the question of ending the fuel subsidy in several sessions, the last of which took place before President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's departure for the United Nations. A decision had been postponed until his excellency's return.

The deficit resulting from the fuel subsidy reached figures that the treasury and the country's economy could no longer bear. The deficit has reached approximately 10 billion pounds a year. This figure includes a subsidy for the electric power authority. The state faces certain bankruptcy and the Lebanese currency total collapse if this matter is not resolved.

Minister Sham'un added: We had two choices: Either the state stopped importing fuel and left this matter to the private sector, or it ended the subsidy. It was necessary to take responsible action, and we decided to raise the prices of fuel while retaining a partial subsidy for some oil products, such as mazut, fuel oil, kerosene, and gas.

He noted that this measure will provide the treasury with the necessary money to carry out development projects and to help the economy in general and industry in particular. It will also enable the displaced to rebuild their homes which were destroyed by war, in Tripoli, West Beirut, Al-Shuf, 'Alayh, Jazzin District, and the Al-Matn coast.

Strike Called Over Subsidy

NC020711 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Representatives of various trade unions held an emergency meeting yesterday, and discussed the decision to lift the fuel

subsidy. The conferees decided, among other things, to reject Minister Sham'un's move to double the price of fuel and to step up action to cancel this decision. They also resolved to prepare for a general strike. A committee of representatives from the trade unions participating in the meeting will be formed. Its members will then contact the chairman of the workers' Trade Union Federation and representatives of all other trade unions in East Beirut to draw up and adopt a common position.

The conferees also called for coordination among various organizations and officials to guarantee a general strike throughout Lebanon.

Karami Comments

NC021500 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami regards the decision made by former President Camille Sham'un to end the fuel subsidy as a serious step for which Sham'un alone bears full responsibility. He noted that Sham'un's action was contrary to the Cabinet's decision to first conduct a study to ensure that the negative repercussions of this measure on the citizenry will be minimal.

Sham'un Responds

NC022057 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Finance and Housing Minister Camille Sham'un this evening responded to Prime Minister Rashid Karami's statement holding him fully responsible for the decision to end the fuel subsidy. He said: I did not expect Prime Minister Karami to take such a position. I fully assumed my responsibilities and duties, and I made a decision. Any statesman of sound mind and sufficient courage would have done the same. This decision, I am sure, is in the interest of the treasury, the state, and the Lebanese economy.

When the Cabinet discussed this subject, Sham'un added, Prime Minister Karami's view was not different from mine. As for the repercussions of this decision, they are not difficult to remedy, Sham'un said. He added: Together with senior officials at the Finance Ministry and my own assistants, and in cooperation with the Social Affairs Ministry, I began the necessary studies to raise minimum wages in proportion to the increase in the prices of some commodities. The results of this study will be known soon and we will determine the expense to the treasury this entails.

Sham'un emphasized: We and the treasury can now meet any demand. We have thus served the state, the treasury, the economy, and all those who have been adversely affected by my decision. I assume responsibility for the decision and I do not shirk this responsibility.

PSP, Amal Issue Statement After Joint Meeting

NC022127 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 2000 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] A meeting was held at the residence of Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri this evening. Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], attended the meeting. Also attending for Amal were Muhammad Baydun, Ayyub Humayyid, Hasan Hashim, Haytham Jum'ah, 'Aql Hamiyah, Ahmad B'albaki, Qabalan Qabalan, Abu 'Isam, Bassam Tulayq, and Mahmud Abu Hamdan. The following represented the PSP at the meeting: Marwan Hamadah, Akram Shuhayyib, Abu Sa'id, Abu Haytham, Abu Firas, and Salih Hiddi.

The following statement was issued at the end of the meeting at 2100:

The deliberations during the meeting dealt with various political, security, and social issues, and resulted in conceptual and political consensus on the various national issues. The conferees stressed the need to confront together all challenges requiring national action in political, security, and social terms.

The statement adds: Pursuant to their desire to transcend events and safeguard national action, the Amal Movement and the PSP have agreed on a series of security and political steps. A delegation made up of PSP and Amal personnel will discuss these steps with the prime minister in a bid to restore security and tranquility to the citizens and ensure the necessary atmosphere to enable our capital, Beirut, to play its national role.

The conferees reviewed a number of pressing social issues, particularly the discontinuation of the fuel subsidy. The conferees were unanimous in their assessemnt that this is an unjust, unilateral decision which constitutes a continuation of hegemony and a disavowal of citizens' rights. This decision, the statement adds, is another service to the well-known financial [word indistinct]. This position will be discussed with the various national and unionist forces. The conferees also discussed the problems of the Trans Mediterranean Airlines and telephone companies to see how they can be solved as soon as possible.

In answer to reporters' questions, Muhammad Baydun, who read the final statement, said that the conferees have an integrated view of West Beirut security. He added that a joint Amal-PSP delegation will meet with Prime Minister Rashid Karami to brief him on this view.

Phalangists Form Team for Dialogue With Forces

NC300719 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] The Phalangist Party has formed a four-man committee to begin a dialogue with the uprising [Lebanese Forces]. The committee is composed of Dr George Sa'adah, who will also act as chairman; Antoin Jazzar; George Qassis; and Sami Khuwayri. The mini-political bureau yesterday instructed Khuwayri to notify the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee of the names of those on the Phalangist four-man team.

Khaddam: Syria Supports Libya Against Conspiracy
JN021916 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1825 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Damascus, 2 Dec (SANA) — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus this evening following a short working visit to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah during which he delivered a letter from President Hafiz al-Asad to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, dealing with the conspiracy that Libya is facing and Syria's support for Libya with all its resources to confront this conspiracy which seeks to impose submission and capitulation on the Arab nation.

Khaddam arrived in Tripoli this morning. He was welcomed on arrival by Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution Command Council; and Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian Arab Relations Bureau.

On arrival in Tripoli, Khaddam made the following statement: President Hafiz al-Asad asked me to go to Tripoli to inform brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan revolutionary command of Syria's stand on the conspiracy Libya is confronting, which is against the Arab nation. Khaddam added: We in Syria have decided to confront this conspiracy with all the means and methods that the confrontation requires. I will discuss with the brothers in Tripoli how to coordinate and act to confront this conspiracy, and I will inform the revolutionary command in Libya that Syria places all its resources at its disposal.

Khaddam added: We in Syria have decided to stand side by side with the Libyan revolution to confront this conspiracy which does not have Libya as its target as much as it seeks to impose a state of submission and capitulation on the Arab nation.

Concluding his statement, Khaddam said: We warn those who are thinking of committing aggression against Libya that they will be facing the resources of Libya and Syria at the same time. Khaddam said: Everybody must know that there is a federation between us which has been sanctioned by our people in the two countries, and we enjoy wide popular support. He added: Though Al-Sadat violated the constitution of this federation with his visit to the Israeli enemy and reduced the effectiveness of the unity issue, the federation continues to exist with all its legitimate components and we will support our brothers with all our resources and strength to confront the imperialist conspiracy which the fraternal Libyan revolution is facing.

AL-BA'TH Criticizes Egyptian Moves Against Libya
JN010708 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Dec 85

[From the press review]

[Text] In today's editorial, *AL-BA'TH* discusses the Egyptian regime's troop concentrations against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. It says that the Camp David regime — which is suffering from stifling crises, a fact which is well-known to all, both inside and outside Egypt — decided to mass its forces against Libya and not against Israel because the latter is a friend of this regime. The aim is to get rid of the Army, which might move against the regime, especially since the opposition in Egypt is no longer confined to civilians but extends to the Armed Forces.

AL-BA'TH notes that this great military show of force represents the regime's full compliance with the U.S. desire. The U.S. Administration believes that fraternal Libya has become a threat to certain U.S. policies in the region, particularly following Ja'far Numayri's fall.

AL-BA'TH points out that, by mounting aggression against Libya through the Camp David regime, the United States will try to reshuffle the cards in the region. Washington seems to be in need for this move following the series of setbacks and defeats of its policies in the region, both concerning Lebanon and in terms of the capitulation solutions which the United States tried to impose on the Arab nation with the backing of certain sides in the Arab homeland.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: In any case, the Egyptian regime, which befriended Israel, the historic enemy of the Arabs, will not be able to do anything because our masses in Egypt are fully aware of this regime's connections with the hostile schemes. Moreover, our valiant Arab army in Egypt will not allow itself to be a tool to serve the U.S.-Israeli aims. This is shown by the Egyptian hero soldier Sulayman Khatir's recent action against the Zionist soldiers. He defied the Camp David orders and responded to the desires of the masses and Army of Arab Egypt.

Khaddam, Junblatt Meetings in Damascus Detailed
NC020836 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Minister Walid Junblatt arrived in Damascus last night and met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Former Ministers Marwan Hamdah and Khalid Junblatt were also present. Dr Muhammad Baydun and Mahmud Abu Hamdan, representing the Amal Movement, joined the session 90 minutes after it began. The meeting lasted until 2140 yesterday.

During the session Khaddam focused on the political aspect of the problem while pointing to the security violations that threaten the national alliance — both military violations and the increasingly anarchic security situation. He noted that these kinds of conditions open the door to intruders. He also referred to the higher number of military offices in West Beirut.

Khaddam stressed the need to relieve the sufferings of Beirut's people, to remove weapons from the city's neighborhoods, and to ban the carrying of arms. The goal of these measures is to close the door to all those who are hurt by the national plan and to prevent them from exploiting gaps in security to strike at the political alliance.

The political leaders who are now in Damascus are scheduled to return to Beirut, where they will try to remove the remaining obstacles related to security and politics. All of them, including Minister Junblatt, Marwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, Dr Baydun, Communist Party Secretary General George Hawi, and

In'am Ra'd have actually left Damascus. 'Asim Qansuh, the regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party organization, will depart Damascus today.

After arriving in Damascus, Junblatt met in camera with Hawi and Qansuh. When the session with Khaddam was over, Junblatt asked Hawi and Qansuh to accompany him back to Beirut to take part in a series of contacts and meetings slated to begin today.

After the meeting with Khaddam, Amal Movement and Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] sources explained that the discussions dealt with the political and security repercussions of events in Beirut. Ways for the nationalist forces to overcome this extraordinary situation and to show greater discipline and determination in continuing with the national plan were examined as well. The talks also dealt with every issue concerning the security formula, the prospects for political action, and proposals to clear the air and strengthen the broad nationalist alliance. The conferees agreed that their cooperation with the nationalist forces, parties, and personalities, particularly Prime Minister Rashid Karami, was necessary. An in-depth discussion of the security formula should be accompanied by continued efforts to rid Beirut of all indisciplined individuals who have hurt public security. More than anything else, Damascus is counting on Prime Minister Karami's role and on putting a final end to the anarchy.

Those who returned to Beirut last night came back with the impression that the atmosphere is extremely positive and that all the parties will establish their headquarters in Beirut to deal with any sudden security violation and to hold meetings among themselves on the situation.

AFP has cited sources in Damascus close to the PSP and the Amal Movement as saying that Syrian leaders asked the two groups to reach an understanding that will make West Beirut secure again. The Syrian leadership pointed out that the accord must win the support of Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The sources noted that Khaddam advised the Amal Movement and the PSP to find a common formula that the prime minister would approve of and which would avoid any repetition of past events.

Foreign Minister Meets With Lebanon's Abu Fadil

JN271941 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' met this evening with Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. Talks revolved around the current situation in the Lebanese arena.

Confers With UN'S Aime

JN281552 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today at noon received Jean-Claude Aime, deputy assistant UN secretary general. Talks revolved around the UNIFIL role and the atmosphere for the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions.

Al-Ahmar Receives USSR Ambassador, Message

JN281424 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1403 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] Damascus, 28 Nov (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received USSR Ambassador in Damascus Felix Fedotov here today. Talks revolved around the relations of cooperation and friendship between the Ba'th Party and the CPSU. During this meeting, Comrade Al-Ahmar received a message from the CPSU Central Committee to the Ba'th Party command.

Arab-European Cooperation Group Leaves Damascus

JN272140 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1845 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Damascus, 27 Nov (SANA) — The delegation of the parliamentary association for Arab-European cooperation of the European Parliament left Damascus today after a 4-day visit to Syria during which it met with Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and senior officials of the Arab Parliamentary Union.

Astronauts Prepare for Space Flight in USSR

JN281537 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1333 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] Moscow, 28 Nov (SANA) — The two Syrian Arab astronauts, Nunir Habib and Muhammad al-Faris, have affirmed that the glorious corrective movement led by comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad has created a great qualitative development in the relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the Soviet Union. This development has made Syria enter the space age and enabled it to conduct scientific experiments and research in space.

In a joint interview conducted by the SANA correspondent in Moscow and the chief editor of the Soviet newspaper *MOSCOW NEWS* —their first interview —the two Syrian Arab astronauts affirmed that the Syrian-Soviet space flight will open up a new era for Syria and will be considered one of the most important events in the history of Syrian-Soviet friendship, which has proved its strength and ability to record achievements and gains for the well-being of the two peoples and countries, especially after the glorious corrective movement led by comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad whose 15th anniversary we celebrated a few days ago.

The two Syrian Arab astronauts expressed their happiness and pride at carrying out this space mission, describing it as cultural and extremely delicate and sensitive from the scientific and technological points of view. They said: We know in advance the reality of the feelings of our beloved country's sons, who have been impatiently awaiting this event and its results since it was publicized because it is considered a landmark in the cultural development of their homeland and Arab nation.

They added: These feelings urge us to live up to their importance and to achieve the best results with our colleagues, 'the Soviet astronauts,' assistance.

Concluding their statement, the two Syrian Arab astronauts asserted that the fruitful and creative cooperation between Syria and the friendly Soviet Union had provided them with a magnificent opportunity to achieve a great personal dream, which is to fly in space, conduct experiments, and return to earth with results that ar useful to the homeland and mankind.

Meanwhile, a news report from the Yuriy Gagarin center in the city of the stars, where the two astronauts are being trained, says the two astronauts are professional pilots. They have begun to prepare to fly in space. In the first stage of preparation, they are taking courses on outer space and construction of the spaceship and orbiting station. They will also be trained on the use of space equipment at this center.

Pollard Case 'Not True', 'New Game Against Arabs'
PM021357 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic
25 Nov 85 p 2

[Samih Abu Takk article: "New American Trick To Mislead Arab Citizen"]

[Text] The scandal of Israeli espionage in the United States involving a U.S. naval officer is not true and cannot be believed. However the diplomatic and press circles in Washington may try to publicize it, the affair in fact is no more than a new game aimed against the Arabs.

Israel does not need spies for itself in the U.S. Navy or elsewhere because the ties of friendship and cooperation between the U.S. Administration and Israel are close, very close indeed. There are no secrets in the United States which Israel does not know. Everything in Israel's hands is U.S.-manufactured, beginning with bullets and ending with nuclear arms. In the field of intelligence the CIA in any part of the world works for Israel the same way it works for the United States. So what need is there for Israel to have a spy in the U.S. Navy? The main concern of the White House and the U.S. Administration headed by Reagan is Israel. We wonder therefore who does not work for Israel in the U.S. Administration? All past and present events categorically confirm that there is an unrestricted cooperation between Washington and Tel Aviv.

Supposing, for argument's sake, that such a spy working for Israel did exist; of what use can he be to it? Is Israel in need of military information? Is it in need of political information that would clarify the U.S. attitude toward it? Israel needs no such thing because everything in the United States is in the service of Israel. Even the FBI works side by side with the Israeli Mosad in order to provide everything that would serve Israel not only in the Arab area but in the whole world.

The U.S. stand of supporting Israel in all fields gives the lie to such a fabricated story. Even if we put aside all the U.S. stands of backing Israel, Murphy's current visit to the Middle East alone is sufficient proof that everyone working in the U.S. Administration is a spy for Israel.

Washington has confirmed at the highest levels that Israel is an American state in the Middle East and that any attack on it is an attack on the United States. It has proved this fact in all the aggressions Israel has committed against the Arabs. During wars, all the U.S. intelligence, listening apparatuses, radars, Navy, and even landing forces worked in the interest of Israel. The United States cannot deny this fact. Israel's invasion of Lebanon is a recent living proof and the whole world knows about U.S. intervention in Lebanon in favor of Israel.

The Israeli political circles have stressed that there is no need for Israel to have spies in the United States. There was astonishment despite the fact that this was a U.S.-Israeli arrangement. How can the world believe such a thing?

IDF Operation Against 'Terrorists' in Lebanon

TA031408 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] An IDF force has carried out an operation in the area of (Hawsh al-Tanayibah) northeast of Hasbayya against concentrations of terrorists belonging to Ahmad Jibril's organization who were organizing for attacks in Israel. Our forces sustained no casualties. The IDF spokesman reports that five terrorists were killed in the operation, some others were detained, and many weapons were captured.

Further Details on Operation

TA031428 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1416 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Excerpt] The IDF unit made its way to its destination completely on foot overnight, and reached the area of (Hawsh al-Tanayibah), some 10 km north [as heard] of Hasbayya. At daybreak, the soldiers raided the terrorists who were sheltering in the caves. First they killed two terrorists on guard at a campfire, and then killed another three and captured some other terrorists during searches inside the caves. The terrorists, incidentally, belong to Ahmad Jibril's organization. Our forces sustained no casualties in the operation.

Early this morning, IDF tanks and armored personnel carriers crossed the border and set out in the direction of the unit that carried out the raid in order to bring the soldiers back in vehicles, but the soldiers came part of the way back on foot as well.

Our correspondent says that the operation was characterized by careful planning and great precision. Infantry units participated in it, and they went undetected when approaching their targets overnight. This operation was commanded by the commander of the Northern Command, and the chief of staff also visited the tactical headquarters.

'Prominent Palestinian' Murdered in Ramallah

TA021909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Attorney 'Aza Shihadah, a most prominent figure in Judaea and Samaria, has been murdered. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that Shihadah left his car near his home in Ramallah and was then stabbed with a knife. The background for the deed is not yet clear, and there are no further details.

Shihadah has been a prominent figure in the Palestinian movement since the 1940's. In the last few years, he drew away from politics.

Peres, Sharon, Rabin, Commentaries on Pollard Case

Peres Believes Affair Closed

TA021552 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1505 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel in the studio — live]

[Text] Perhaps the following episode will demonstrate the confusion in our political establishment regarding the Pollard affair and its media ramifications. The press knew about the late Saturday night talk between Mr Peres and Mr Shultz, but the newspapers were strictly forbidden to publish it, and this morning it was also censored. This morning, however, the prime minister met members of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations in the United States and told them that the secretary of state phoned him at 0300 Sunday morning and they talked for about 1 hour on the Pollard affair. The prime minister's statement was made public in an official and open publication of the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE, and from there it reached the public, and so this supposedly secret and forbidden report was in such a way approved for publication. Let us add here that in their talk the two finalized the draft of the Israeli statement read yesterday, and in fact they thus paved the way for ending the affair. This morning Peres said that in the last 24 hours we have clarified many misunderstandings and that it is important to preserve our relations with the United States, which recently peaked; this is important for the two countries and for the free world.

Peres said he takes issue with hints that the intelligence community or the country spied; this is an instance of an individual spy and is contrary to our principles. I think that if you make a mistake, the best thing is to have the courage to admit it and apologize. Mr Peres also said this is not a Jewish or national affair, but rather a limited affair, and we will draw the necessary conclusions. Apparently these remarks by Peres today faithfully reflect the prevailing feeling in Jerusalem that the Pollard affair is no longer an obstacle in Israeli-American relations.

As for the peace process, Mr Peres said Husayn is currently awaiting the PLO's answers in order to be able to inform the United States of the PLO's positions on the UN resolutions, on an end to terrorism, and on negotiating with Israel. The prime minister believes Husayn has no answers yet because the PLO is evading answers and decisions. Peres assess that the Syrians are not interested in peace; he does not believe the few hints on an international peace conference are serious. According to him the Syrian's real objective is to control the Arab world. On the issue of Soviet Jewry the prime minister said this issue touches relations between the two superpowers. From talks with Soviet representatives, including Shevardnadze, it appears that the Soviet Union will not permit Jews to leave unless they go to Israel.

Sharon Comments on Case

TA021835 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Interview with Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon by Tzahi Noga at Ben-Gurion Airport, immediately after the minister's return from a tour of the United States and South America — live]

[Text] [Noga] Good evening, Mr Minister.

[Sharon] Good evening.

[Noga] You must have followed and heard about the affair of the U.S. spy, Pollard. What is your reaction?

[Sharon] The Cabinet adopted a resolution and it was announced yesterday by the prime minister. I think it was a good announcement and a good decision. The Cabinet also announced that it will carry out an exhaustive investigation of the affair. I therefore believe that we should wait until after the investigation is completed, and that there is no need to talk too much about this business. The necessary steps have been taken, and I have full confidence that the Cabinet has taken the steps that were called for. I hope what happened will not cast a shadow on relations between the United States and Israel, which have traditionally been founded on deep friendship. I believe in open and frank ties, in friendly relations based on reciprocity with the United States. We should be careful not to harm these relations, and I believe that these relations will continue.

[Noga] Mr Minister, this affair was both uncovered and dealt with during your absence. Were you party to all the stages of the negotiations involving the ways to handle it?

[Sharon] No, I was not in Israel, and was not privy to this issue. Nor could I have been.

[Noga] One of the people whose names was mentioned as having taken part in this business quite substantially, Rafi Eytan, is known to be an associate of yours. Did you know about these matters even before you left the country?

[Sharon] As I said before, I believe that after the Cabinet has taken the moves, the affair will not tarnish Israeli-U.S. relations. On the other hand, the incessant attempts, which began on the very first day, to try to link this business to previous governments and people who have never held any post that was in any way related to the affair when it happened, are very grave, and I believe they will cause serious damage. The attempt to connect to this former Prime Minister Mr Menahem Begin, me, or other people who were not at all involved, who held no public office at the time, certainly points to what I believe is a very grave phenomenon in our lives, which is that even during a crisis — and this was a crisis for Israel — people in Israel are trying to make some short-term, internal political gains. I did not know about the affair; I did not know about it then, I do not even know enough about it now. I had no connection with it, and this is all I can tell you about it.

[Noga] Finally, Mr Minister, this morning you met with the Israeli trade attaches in Western Europe, who convened in Paris. We have a lot of problems with the EEC. In what way did this morning's meeting help?

[Sharon] This morning I met with some of the Israeli trade and commercial attaches who are accredited to places that are close to Paris. We discussed the one issue I dealt with during this entire last trip and which I intend to concentrate on in the coming months, which is the effort to increase Israeli exports. This is what I discussed in South America — in Argentina and Uruguay, with which I signed agreements on behalf of the Israeli Government on balancing bilateral trade and on reciprocity, things which have not existed for many years. This should result in a substantial increase in Israeli exports to these countries and perhaps even to other South American countries, too. I discussed this 3 days ago with our trade delegation in New York. This will undoubtedly bring about greater counter-purchases by the United States in return for the Israeli government purchases, in this case of grains. This is what I discussed in Paris this morning, too.

[Noga] Thank you very much, Mr Industry and Trade Minister.

Rabin: Material Not Used in Raid

TA031412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] The defense minister has firmly denied reports that Israel relied on information passed on from the spy Pollard in its bombardment of the PLO headquarters in Tunisia. Our correspondent David Essing reports that in an address to members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Minister Rabin called the report utter nonsense. He said that if the Israeli intelligence services were incapable of providing such intelligence, the country would be in dire straits. Mr Rabin expressed the hope that the Pollard affair would not harm the friendly relations between Israel and the United States and the two countries' common interests.

POST on Ramifications

TA291107 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Nov 85 p 18

[Commentary by defense correspondent Hirsh Goodman: "Who Gave the Disorder?"]

[Text] The truth in the Pollard spy affair will eventually come out. It always does. In the meantime, the press, subject to security censorship, is going to have to walk a thin red line between what constitutes the public's right to know and what is damaging to the security of the state. Precisely because we are dealing with shadows, light must be shed.

The government has promised to provide clarification early next week. This is not only essential internally; it is also essential in terms of this country's relations with its main, virtually only, protector and ally. And nobody is more sensitive to this fact than Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin,

and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, each of whom has been extremely badly shaken by the affair.

For days now — up to three hours a day — the three have huddled together to discuss the problem, mostly without aides in attendance. What they had on their agenda was apparently so sensitive that they trusted no one with the information before them. Apart from having to find a way of appeasing the Americans, of ascertaining the scope of the damage, each of the three could be personally or collectively implicated. One of them, after all, must have had ministerial responsibility for the branch of the intelligence community responsible for hiring and controlling Pollard.

If the man holding ministerial responsibility was Peres, his position as prime minister could be in jeopardy. If he knew of Pollard and allowed the relationship to continue, he would be guilty of extreme bad judgment. If he did not know what was going on in the secret and powerful agencies under his responsibility — agencies that by definition work on the brink of the permissible, necessitating tight control — he would be guilty of gross incompetence. If Rabin was responsible for the unit or Shamir (if the unit was attached to the Foreign Ministry's research branch) they, too, would be in jeopardy.

And if one of them is responsible, how can ministerial responsibility be accepted by either in a way that will not have irreparable political consequences for the fragile national unity government on the one hand, and on Peres' delicate relationship with Rabin, on the other?

Not since the blackest days of the Lebanese war have American-Israeli relations been so strained. A senior administration official told an Israeli Cabinet minister on Wednesday that he felt he had "been stabbed in the back" and warned that the Israeli Government should not interpret the lack of public condemnation by the administration as indicative of anything other than U.S. sensitivity to Shim'on Peres' position. If the administration did not have an interest in preserving Peres because they believed him to be the only Israeli at present capable of furthering primary American peace goals in this region, they would have been far more vociferous in their reaction.

The administration's restraint, however, has not inhibited others. Peres, Rabin, and Shamir have been inundated with reports from American Congressional and Jewish leaders on the extent of the damage. It has been, to quote one of these reports, incalculable.

In the balance is an Israeli request for major adjustments to the country's interest payments on loans from the U.S. — adjustments that could save Israel hundreds of millions of dollars and could be a major factor in trying to balance next year's budget. On the agenda, too, sit the arms sale to Jordan. And, at the heart of the matter, how Israel is perceived in terms of being a friend and an ally of the United States.

As the three sit and try to formulate a response, they not only have to take all these considerations into account, but also the impact on Israel's intelligence community of any decision they make.

If they fire officials who were carrying out orders, acting with implicit or explicit approval of past political overlords and under the assumption that current silence constituted de facto approval, the government could be faced with serious dissatisfaction within those services. There are clear indications that this is more than just a theory.

Such an act, especially if the victim is a senior official, would be seen, not unjustly, as "scapegoating," an attempt by the ministers to save their own political careers at the expense of their subordinates.

The circumstances would be similar to those following the Yom Kippur War when the Agranat Commission avoided the issue of ministerial responsibility and heaped the entire blame for the catastrophe on the army. The ramifications of that decision reverberate to this day.

From the intelligence community's narrow point of view, the decision to use Pollard's services was probably logical and justified. The following factors, one can surmise, were taken into account: Here was a source of top-class information on the Arab world, information that was outside the scope of regular exchanges between the U.S. and Israel. The information might have been extremely costly, perhaps impossible, to obtain from another source.

Though the source was American and employing his services would be in contradiction to a 1983 agreement between the two countries not to spy on each other, Pollard would not be spying on the Americans, but on Israel's enemies the Arabs. Thus, with imaginative interpretation, the agreement would not be broken, just bent. Pollard, moreover, was not actively recruited but had offered his services, once more allowing for lax interpretation of the regulations.

Again, from the narrow intelligence perspective, Pollard was an ideal target for information. If media reports are to be believed, Pollard had a cocaine habit and was greedy; at the same time, he was in possession of highly classified information — the spy master's dream agent.

One can understand an intelligence decision to use him. One cannot understand politicians, responsible for Israel's overall well-being, allowing them to do so, thus making it even more difficult for them to escape ministerial responsibility.

What branch of the intelligence community operated Pollard and which minister is responsible? Somewhere in the intelligence community there was a section with a budget for espionage, yet that was also obscure enough to operate far from the eye of the responsible minister — if one is to believe that neither Peres, Shamir, nor Rabin knew specifically about Pollard and that they would have acted immediately if they had. Who then was this mechanism working for, and with what authority?

Is it possible that an operational appendix was allowed to continue operating at cross purposes to national policy commitments to the U.S.? Beyond the damage that this affair could cause to Israel's relations with the U.S., beyond the damage to Peres, Rabin or Shamir, and beyond the potential damage to the

intelligence community, Pollard has placed a fundamental question mark over the system as a whole.

Whether the responsible officials are ultimately removed from office remains to be seen. But judging by what we already know, it is clear that no matter who is found to be responsible, or what price he or they may pay, punishment will not eradicate the perplexing realization that those responsible for Israel's security are capable of both the myopia and sheer stupidity that the Pollard affair has illuminated.

U.S. Intentions Assessed

TA021600 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Dec 85 p 10

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "Jonathan and the Detectives"]

[Text] Another round of talks between Israeli and U.S. delegations within the framework of the bilateral strategic cooperation accord will begin in Washington today.

This strategic cooperation includes, among other things, political and intelligence coordination, and despite the "Pollard cloud" which cast a shadow on Washington-Jerusalem relations last week, the U.S. policymakers saw no reason why the process of weaving the fabric of bilateral strategic cooperation should be halted. One may safely guess that the U.S. policymakers believe that even a misunderstanding like the one manifested in the Jonathan Pollard affair should not weaken the two countries' common interest in strategic coordination and the exchange of intelligence information.

These intimate relations should have prevented the creation of the Pollard case — his initial recruitment, and later the unnecessary publicity that swamped the world media after the stumble. The ability of the two countries to heal the glitch in relations quickly is a test of their friendship. Even before the Pollard affair made the news, Israel should have taken swift action to iron out the differences, but this opportunity was missed.

Now this will be much more difficult, because the contentious issue has gotten beyond the control of the political authorities, which are guided by political-strategic considerations, and has been transferred to the hands of the judicial authorities where procedure reigns.

President Reagan refrained from naming Israel in his broadcast on the spy cases that were uncovered in the United States. Secretary of State George Shultz definitely did not wish to tarnish relations with Israel. On the contrary, one can say with near certainty that had he been in Washington at the time of Pollard's arrest, he would have tried to stem the deterioration.

It would be hard to believe that someone had planned to ignite this affair in advance. Pollard was not captured because some administration official decided to pull a fast one on Israel, but once he was arrested there were enough people in the administration — and not necessarily senior ones — who believed that this incident of Israel's involvement in such a case should be exploited to teach it a lesson.

The fact that the Pollard affair has been allowed to snowball gives rise to the theory that perhaps there are people in Washington who wish to benefit in the Arab countries from the rift that has emerged in Israeli-U.S. relations. It is hard to find evidence to sustain this theory, but on the other hand it is likewise difficult to find another explanation for the willingness, nay eagerness, with which certain officials fed the media with stories about the Israeli intelligence.

— First, the picture emerging in the world media of U.S. agents struggling with the "Israeli agent" who is trying to pass U.S. intelligence on the Arab armies to Israel, is a high-interest investment in the Arab capitals, at least in the eyes of certain U.S. intelligence personnel, who feel they could use it as proof of the U.S. Government's credibility in safely securing the Arab countries' military secrets. So watchful are they, that a country like Israel, which is bonded to the United States by virtue of the strategic cooperation accord, is forced to assume risks in hiring the services of spies.

— Second, at the same time that a Washington newspaper unravels a CIA plot to overthrow the Al-Qadhdhafi regime, and while simultaneously there is tension along the Egyptian-Libyan border, the U.S. intelligence people find it convenient "to maintain their distance from Israel" and prove to whomever needs to be convinced that Israel is not at all involved in the matter, which is purely an Arab affair.

— Third, the Israeli-U.S. conflict over the U.S. detectives who demand an interrogation of the two Israeli diplomats could assist U.S. Middle East diplomacy in another topical area, called "the political process." Israel, in distress over the Pollard affair, will, in the opinion of certain U.S. experts, be more amenable to concessions on Palestinian issues so as not to exacerbate its relations with the United States.

— Fourth, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who visited Damascus and Amman this week, will have a ready answer for the accusations he will hear that the United States fully identifies with Israel.

The initial reports maintained that the U.S. detectives identified the Israeli diplomat who talked to Pollard on the telephone by his voice. Now it is being reported that it was the detectives who instructed Pollard to call the embassy and that he was supposed to be the bait to examine the Israeli Embassy's staff.

If this is true, then the detectives set a trap for the Israeli Embassy personnel. The question is why the detectives had to go all that way to trap the Israelis. They will certainly not reveal their motives, so one can only assume that they were interested in obtaining the kind of effect a small Israeli-U.S. crisis over intelligence would produce in the Arab countries.

The detectives may have had an even weightier motive: According to *THE NEW YORK TIMES'* Thomas Friedman, the documents Pollard handed over to his Israeli contacts showed that U.S. intelligence has succeeded in penetrating deep into the Israeli military establishment.

Although *THE NEW YORK TIMES* reporter does not say it outright, it may well be that someone in Washington wished to signal Israel: If you touch our agents, we also have means of retribution. At any rate, this is the way things are done in the world, and the intelligence services are in the habit of signaling, not threatening or warning. This practice is most common in intelligence relations between friendly countries.

This affair did not surface in order to persuade Congress not to legislate a bill that would lower the interest rate Israel has to pay on credit provided by the United States. The administration believed it could prevent the passage of this bill, which would have saved Israel $500 million a year, even without the Pollard scandal. This affair was unraveled by sheer coincidence, and once it was uncovered, various Washington bodies sank their teeth into it for various reasons, to reap maximum advantages from it by blowing it up beyond the dimensions it warranted.

In Israel, anyone who is dragged into a public settling of accounts with the U.S. secret services is inadvertently helping those who harbor these intentions. Even the attempt to prove publicly that the Americans also spied on Israel while Israel did not raise a great big commotion over it is wrong. Such a vociferous dispute does not serve Israel's interest, which is to dispel the unwarranted tension that has prevailed in relations with Washington.

Perpetuating the public argument will result in diverting the ties between Jerusalem and Washington from the main course of cooperation to the dams of distrust and misunderstanding. This is absolutely unnecessary. The strategic cooperation makes restoring confidence imperative.

Yesterday the Israeli Government took an unprecedented step toward restoring that faith and trust: Not only did it apologize to the U.S. Government, but it furthermore pledged to dismantle the unit involved if it is proved that its men indeed engaged in spying against the United States. It also promised to punish the culprits if the charges of Israeli spying in the United States are substantiated. One would be hard put to find a case of greater self-flagellation. If the U.S. Government does not accept this far-reaching apology, one could justifiably entertain the thought that perhaps Pollard was, after all, merely the pretext.

Rabin Comments on Importance of Peace With Egypt
TA271957 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that Israel must preserve the peace treaty with Egypt; otherwise she might find herself in a few years without Sinai and without peace. He was replying to a motion in the Knesset by Mikha'el Eytan of the Likud who warned of dangers on Israel's eastern front. Jack Katzenell reports.

[Begin recording] Mikha'el Eytan voiced concern about the reconciliation between Jordan and Syria and the growth in the power of the Syrian and Jordanian Armies. He quoted an Israeli general as saying the progress of the Jordanian Army is astonishing, and he added that the Saudi Arabian arsenal is at Jordan's disposal. For the first time, Eytan said, the Jordanians have conducted an exercise in which the object was to cross the River Jordan and capture all the territory on the West Bank as far as Jerusalem. The Israeli Army, by contrast, was losing its qualitative edge and deterrent power. The quality of the personnel was dropping, Eytan said, and the defense cuts were taking their toll on the level of training and the size of the fighting units. Mikha'el Eytan charged that some of Israel's political leaders were so anxious to promote the peace process that they were not sufficiently sensitive to the dangers to the country's security.

Defense Minister Rabin replied that the search for peace was a cornerstone of Israel's strategy, and he warned that unless Israel fosters the peace with Egypt on a mutual basis, she is liable to find herself after a few years without Sinai and without peace. We paid a heavy price for peace with Egypt, he said; it was scarcely a compromise; we gave back almost everything, and this can certainly not be a precedent for the other fronts.

Rabin conceded that the cuts in the defense budget have had an adverse effect on the military power that Israel could and ought to have been building up.

With regard to developments on the eastern front, Rabin proposed that this be discussed behind closed doors in the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, and although Mikha'el Eytan is not a member of the committee, he had little choice but to agree. [end recording]

Contents of Mubarak Letter to Peres Reported
TA030703 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Studio talk between anchorman Shalom Qital and political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer — live]

[Text] [Schiffer] This morning the unofficial talks will begin in Cairo in an attempt to reach a formula that will facilitate an agreement between Israel and Egypt on all the disputed issues. During the night, the directors general of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry arrived in Cairo. One should note that Egypt's firm stand on the Tabah issue has not changed: Arbitration only. In Israel we have a draw: The Likud wants conciliation first and the Alignment wants arbitration if the other problems are settled. In any event, the Egyptian president wanted to create a new, positive atmosphere in relations between the two countries. In a message he sent the prime minister a few days ago, we can read unambiguous things about several of the issues that are making it difficult to improve relations. Let us read some excerpts from this letter.

Regarding the murder in Ra's al-Burqa', President Mubarak writes: It is obvious that the abhorrent murder of the Israeli tourists in Sinai shocked the Israeli public. Let there be no doubt that this is an isolated incident that does not reflect the attitude of the Egyptian public, which condemns this disgraceful act. The investigation into the incident began at once and without delay. The matter is being dealt with seriously and in accordance with the legal requirements. All the information will soon be made known to you. Every Israeli must believe that we will not take such an event lightly. It is important for us to honor the tradition

of protecting our guests from any danger while they are visiting us. We are aware of the sensibilities of Israeli public opinion. End of quotation on this matter. In the letter, the Egyptian president emphasizes the importance of refraining from making statements that worsen the atmosphere among the public.

As for the peace process in the area, President Mubarak wrote that he is convinced that Yasir 'Arafat supports an uncompromising stand against terrorism.

On the international conference, I quote: I would like to ask you to show more flexibility on the issue of the international conference, since it is clear that the conference will not be a substitute for direct negotiations on the committee level. If there is agreement on convening a conference, we will act to ensure that it will not deteriorate into a forum of rhetoric which would harm the interests of the main parties.

The Egyptian president concludes his letter with an assessment of the future of peace in the area, writing: Now, when certain parties which had reservations about accepting the idea of peaceful coexistence with Israel have made great progress toward accepting this position, the chances of success are greater. End of quotation. And it is against this background that this morning's talks are beginning in Cairo.

[Qital] Perhaps one more sentence, Shim'on, about U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who is scheduled to arrive here?

[Schiffer] The U.S. assistant secretary of state is to arrive here this evening and will immediately meet with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. We assume that Mr Peres will learn from Mr Murphy that Jordan still has great difficulties with the PLO. They have not yet reached a settlement there; the PLO has not yet responded to Jordan's demands. In Syria he undoubtedly heard about willingness to be incorporated into the process, but only within the framework of an international conference. Syria is also demanding that Israel withdraw from the security strip in southern Lebanon and that UNIFIL be stationed on the international border. We have learned from at least one source that Mr Murphy supports this idea and there will be intensive contacts between Israel and the United States on this issue.

Italian Minister Meets Peres, To Visit Territories
TA021452 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this afternoon met Franco Nicolazzi, secretary general of the Italian Social Democratic Party and Italian minister of public works. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez notes this is the first visit by an Italian minister to Israel since the *Achille Lauro* affair. He came as the guest of the Labor Party and intends to meet settlers and Arab dignitaries in the territories.

Israel, Jordan Cooperate in Al-Yarmuk River Project
TA282024 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] A small island in the Al-Yarmuk River's course was removed this week by Israeli and Jordanian tractors working jointly. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the Jordanians wanted to remove the island to guarantee a smoother flow of water to the canals they have dug in the area. Israel agreed, thanks to U.S. mediation, and this week the work was completed.

Israel, Uruguay Sign Economic Cooperation Agreement
TA291731 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Israel and Uruguay have signed an agreement on economic cooperation according to which trade between the two countries will balance within 5 years. At present, Israel's imports are 26 percent higher than its exports to Uruguay. The agreement was signed by Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon in Montevideo. A delegation of industrialists accompanying the minister reported that it had signed contracts to export goods to Uruguay worth dozens of millions of dollars.

Biotechnic, Solar Projects With France Approved
TA021839 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The French-Israeli Association for Cooperation in Research and Development has decided to approve five new projects in the field of biotechnics and solar energy. The French science minister says Israel may be able to take part in the European version of "star wars."

Israel To Not Cooperate With Hague Court
TA010717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0600 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] In the future Israel will not cooperate with The Hague International Court. This was written by Foreign Minister Shamir to the UN secretary general. He says the court is hostile and that countries which do not maintain relations with Israel are represented in it. Our political correspondent notes that several months ago the United States announced that it will boycott the Hague International Court.

Shamir Appoints Adviser on East European Affairs
TA291113 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
29 Nov 85 p 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has indicated its growing concern with East European affairs with the appointment of a senior adviser to Foreign Minister Shamir.

Yehuda Horn, former ambassador to Finland, a major listening post for what goes on in the Soviet Union, has been appointed special adviser to Shamir on East European affairs. His appointment follows contacts over exchanges of low-level representatives with Poland and indications that other East European countries, acting under Soviet aegis, are seeking to improve ties with Israel.

Another recent ministry appointment is that of Pinhas Goren, who was made head of the Oceanic Affairs Department (for Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Islands).

Deputy Defense, Labor Ministers Appointed

TA011613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] The Cabinet has approved the appointment of Knesset Member [MK] Mikha'el Deqel from Herut as deputy defense minister, and MK Refa'el Pinhasi of SHAS [Sefaradim Shomrey Torah, Torah Observing Sephardim] as deputy labor and social welfare minister. The Liberal ministers supported the two appointments, while Minister David Levi did not participate in the vote. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that Deputy Minister Deqel will deal primarily with settlement in the territories and some civilian economic matters. The other roles have not been defined.

Reports Claim North Yemen Jews Victims of Terror

TA010533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Reports reaching Israel say the Jews of North Yemen have become the victims of terror attacks. The reports, now in the hands of the Committee for the Rescue of Jews of Yemen, say Jews have been murdered, others have been forced to convert to Islam, and women and children have disappeared from their homes. The head of the committee said the terrorists have set up bases in North Yemen and the authorities there have not been able to control them. The committee is calling on the Israeli Government to save the remnants of Yemenite Jewry and plans to hold an emergency meeting with Justice Minister Moshe Nisim taking part.

Ethiopian Immigrants Moved to Ma'ale Adummim

TA020750 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Dec 85 p 1

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] Despite the U.S. Administration's opposition to moving Ethiopian immigrants who reached Israel within the framework of "Operation Moses" to settlements beyond the Green Line, yesterday the first 9 families, made up of approximately 50 people, were moved to Ma'ale Adummim.

The Ministry of Housing and Absorption offices intend to settle some 40 Ethiopian immigrant families in Ma'ale Adummim. Twenty-five Ethiopian immigrant families are scheduled to be settled in Qiryat Arba'. There are currently 260 Ethiopian immigrants living in the Qiryat Arba' absorption center.

The chairman of the Jewish Agency's board of trustees, (Gerald Hoffburger), recently claimed that Jewish Agency leaders were working in contravention of the agreement with the U.S. Administration by permitting the transfer of Ethiopian immigrants to settlements beyond the Green Line.

In reaction, the Ministry of Absorption spokesman, Gad Ben-Ari, said yesterday that "we do not decide where they will live. We directed the nine Ethiopian immigrant families from the absorption center in Mevasseret Ziyyon to Ma'ale Adummim because apartments were allocated there in buildings that have not yet been occupied."

Cabinet Approves $400 Million Budget Cut

TA020611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The government is cutting $400 million from next year's state budget. The prime minister and finance minister will hold discussions with other ministers this week about a cut of another $200 million. This was decided by the Cabinet after an 11-hour discussion. Fourteen ministers supported the decision and seven opposed it. Our correspondent on economic affairs Me'ir Einstein points out that, according to the decision, there will be almost no cut in the government's activities. The finance minister told our correspondent that the additional $200 million will be cut from the budgets of ministries and no new taxes will be imposed. It was decided that $100 million will be cut from the defense budget, but this amount will be transferred from U.S. aid to the Finance Ministry. A sum of $120 million will be cut from subsidies and $77 million from industrial incentives. Tax reforms will be postponed to July and thus $22 million will be saved. The tax on allowances for the first child will continue and the Cabinet will collect $50 million from companies and government authorities in dividends. [preceding word in English]

Moda'i Offers 'Upbeat Prognosis' on Economy

TA291140 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Nov 85 p 3

[Report by Roy Isacowitz]

[Text] Tel Aviv — The consumer price index this month will increase by only 1.5 per cent and will remain at that level for the coming months, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i predicted yesterday.

Meeting with members of the Liberal Party's Histadrut faction, the Liberal Workers Union, Moda'i gave a generally upbeat prognosis of the economic situation. Inflation will remain below 2 per cent monthly even after the price controls are lifted, he predicted.

While conceding that wages have been seriously eroded since the introduction of the economic-recovery plan, Moda'i said that

they would rise by some 20 per cent by the end of March because of wage supplements to be paid over the next few months.

According to statistics released this week, wages have eroded by between 20 and 32 per cent. The upcoming supplements will average only 12 per cent. Moda'i acknowledged that the $500 million cut proposed by the Treasury for the next budget was "drastic," but averred that it is necessary if the goals of the economic programme are to be achieved.

The coming year is the only opportunity that the government will have to cut its budget and invest in growth, he said. In 1987, the holders of bank shares will have to be reimbursed by up to $680 m. [million] and in 1988 the government could pay out as much as $6 billion.

"If by that stage there is no public confidence in the government and the money is not invested, I don't know how we will be able to pay," he said.

The object of the programme over the next year will be the development of the economy's growth potential, Moda'i said. As a means to that end, income taxes will be reduced and industrial plants which have financial difficulties, but which are basically sound, will receive state aid.

The tax collection system has been significantly improved, Moda'i said. One year ago, 52 per cent of the total tax revenue raised was paid by workers. Today that percentage has dropped to 45 per cent.

Real Wages Plunge to 1978 Average Level

TA280917 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Nov 85 p 2

[Report by the economic correspondent]

[Text] Gross wages in real terms went down to their average level for 1978 during the first three months of the government's economic plan, figures published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics [CBS] showed. Gross salaries in real terms in July-September were 23 per cent below their level for the same period last year, the CBS also said.

The bureau said that the average gross wage during the third quarter of the year totalled IS 742,000 a month, 15.5 per cent less than in the previous three months.

The bureau figures showed that public-sector employees were the most affected by wage erosion. They earned an average gross monthly salary of IS 613,000 in July-September, 31 per cent less in real terms than in the same period last year. The erosion in public-sector wages pushed them almost 7 per cent below their 1978 level.

Data on Military Spending in Middle East

TA020717 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Dec 85 p 2

[Text] Israel's military spending, both as a percentage of the total budget and in absolute terms, is lower than any of the major Arab states apart from Jordan, according to information released by the Army spokesman yesterday.

A study released recently by the Jaffe Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University indicated the contrary.

The following are the figures released by the Army spokesman:

Country	Year	Declared Defence Budget in U.S. Billions	Percentage of State Budget
Syria	1985	3.3	30.2
Jordan	1985	0.44	21.6
Egypt	1984/5	3.4	14.8
Iraq	1983	6.0 (est.)	—
Libya	1984	1.15	23.6
Saudia	1985/6	17.75	32.0
Israel	1985/6	2.6	10.6

Briefs

Coal Imports From Poland — For the first time in its history Israel will import 50,000 tons of coal. The coal is expected to arrive during the first half of 1986. It will be used experimentally at the Hadera power plant, and if the Electric Company finds the quality of the coal satisfactory, Israel will continue to purchase coal from Poland. Israel and Poland were engaged in direct negotiations over this transaction for the past 18 months, but despite these direct contacts, the coal will not be purchased directly from Poland but through an Austrian trade company. Poland will be paid with Israeli goods for 50 percent of the consignment. [Excerpt] */Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Dec 85 p 1 TA/*

ALGERIA

Poland's Jaruzelski Arrives on Official Visit

LD021526 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Mr Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee and president of the Polish Council of State, has arrived in Algiers for an official visit to our country. Mr Jaruzelski is responding to an invitation from President Chadli Bendjedid.

Talks With Bendjedid

LD022051 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Polish President Jaruzelski arrived in Algiers today on an official visit at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid. At the airport VIP lounge, Mr Jaruzelski, who is first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, expressed satisfaction with his visit, saying it is contributing to strengthening the friendly links between our two countries. He added that his visit and talks with President Chadli Bendjedid will give a new impetus to the links of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries.

Political talks between the two heads of state have begun at the Villa (Djenane al-Messaq). President Jaruzelski is accompanied by a large delegation comprising, in particular, the secretary of the Central Committee, the chairman of the External Relations Committee, the deputy prime minister, the secretary of the Council of State, the minister of foreign affairs, and the minister of labor and social affairs.

Bendjedid Hosts Banquet

LD030939 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
0600 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general and president of the Republic, yesterday held a dinner banquet in honor of the chairman of the Polish Council of State, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, and the accompanying delegation. Members of the FLN Political Bureau, members of the government, prominent state and party officials, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Algeria also attended.

USSR Military Group Visits Military Academy

LD022009 Algiers Domestic Service in French
1830 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The Soviet military delegation which has been on an official visit to our country since yesterday, visited the Armed Forces Military Academy at Cherchell this morning. This afternoon it left for Oran, where it was welcomed by the commander of the second military region, General Hocine Benmalem, with high-ranking officers of the region. I remind you that the Soviet delegation is led by Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of Soviet Ground Forces.

FLN Officials Receive PLO's Yasir 'Arafat

LD012031 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], and the delegation accompanying him, is continuing his visit to Algiers where he arrived yesterday morning. Brother leader Abu 'Ammar and his accompanying delegation were received yesterday evening at the FLN party headquarters by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the permanent secretariat of the FLN Central Committee.

The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee; and brother Abu al-'Izz, PLO representative in Algiers. On the Algerian side, the meeting was attended by: Abderrazak Bouhara, Bachir Khaldoun, and Sadek Zouaten, members of the Permanent Secretariat in charge of foreign relations and information.

During this encounter, the two sides reviewed a number of issues, foremost of which were the latest events in the Arab region in general and the Palestinian scene in particular. In the evening, brother Abu 'Ammar spoke at the solidarity rally held at the Ibd Khaldoun Hall in Algiers to mark the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, which was attended by a number of ministers and officials of the Algerian party and state; members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps accredited to Algiers; representatives of liberation movements, in addition to numerous militants and senior officials.

In his speech, which was interspersed with loud applause and slogans in support of the Palestinian people, its struggle, and its sole legitimate representative, brother Abu 'Ammar said that the Palestinian people would fight the Zionist enemy to the last baby in the womb of its mother, despite the closing of all the Arab borders before it and despite all forms of conspiracies against it by brothers and enemies.

In his address, brother Abu 'Ammar touched on the magnitude of the conspiracy against the Palestinian revolution, through which there were daily attempts to impose the conditions of America and the agents of America who speak Arabic. There are Jews speaking Hebrew and there are also Jews speaking Arabic who are hurriedly seeking to eliminate the revolution of our people and liquidate its just cause.

Brother Abu 'Ammar went on: Despite these conspiracies and despite all the forms of plotting by certain people in an attempt to achieve Zionist and imperialist objectives, the Palestinian people have never been as united around the PLO as they are today. In this context, he stressed that the revolution which was a continuation of the revolution carried out by the fraternal people in Algeria would inevitably triumph.

A number of orators also spoke at the rally, including the secretary of Algiers district, and Youcef Yalaoui, secretary

general of the Mujahidin Organization [Veterans of the Liberation War], who spoke on behalf of the mass organization, in addition to the representative of the scientific, vocational, and cultural unions in Algiers. In their addresses, they reviewed the lesson of this anniversary and the stages of the development of the struggle of the Palestinian people through its revolutionary march. In this respect, they stressed the cohesion and solidarity of the Algerian people and its leadership with the struggle of the Palestinian people. They have also embraced the substance of Algerian solidarity with the Palestinian revolution in its darkest moments. They also affirmed that the Palestinian people and its revolution will triumph despite all the large-scale plots.

LIBYA

Reportage on Visit by Poland's Jaruzelski

JANA Interview

LD021933 Tripoli JANA in English 1823 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Raba Awal 19, December 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Gen. Jaruzelski gave a statement to JANA's correspondent. He expressed his, and his accompanying delegation's, pleasure to have visited the friendly Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

He said: We highly appreciate the talks we held with our friends in Libya. They were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. Our points of views were identical on many international issues. They confirmed the spirit of co-operation that exists between our two countries in facing imperialist schemes and threats to world peace. He confirmed the people of Poland's standing on the side of Arab and African causes and the struggle of the Latin American nations.

He added that this visit came to confirm the co-operation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the People's Socialist Republic of Poland bilaterally and internationally in the aim of consolidating the two countries peoples' co-operation.

Gen. Jaruzelski, in his statement, expressed his appreciation and admiration to the giant cultural achievements realised on the Libyan Arab land thanks to the Great Al-Fatih Revolution. He thanked and appreciated the hospitality and reception he and his accompanying delegation received from the Libyan Arab people and its revolutionary leadership. He wished more progress and success for the Libyan Arab people to accomplish its great goals.

Agreements Signed

LD021251 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1131 GMT 2 Nov 85

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dec (JANA) The leader of the revolution and Lieutenant General Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Poland, this morning attended the signing ceremony for four bilateral cooperation agreements between the SPLAJ [Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah] and the Polish People's Republic. The agreements include strengthening bilateral cooperation between the two countries in consular, judicial, and information fields. They also include an agreement on strengthening cooperation between the two countries in the fields of social security, housing, and utilities.

Joint Statement

LD022043 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 85

["Text" of Libyan-Polish joint statement issued in Tripoli and Warsaw 2 December following visit to Libya by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party and chairman of the Polish Council of State]

[Text] At the invitation of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the great leader of the 1 September Revolution, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Poland, made an official friendly visit to the Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah from 30 November through 2 December 1985. The great Polish guest was accorded a warm welcome expressing the depth of friendship which binds the two friendly peoples. Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski and his accompanying delegation laid a wreath on the monument of the martyrs of the Battle of (?Al-Hani).

Official talks were held between Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, and Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, attended by brother staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud.

Also taking part in them on the Arab Libyan side were Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; Brother Muhammad 'Ubayd al-Shukri, secretary of the General People's Committee for Utilities, also in charge of housing; Brother Ibrahim Hasan, secretary of the General People's Committee for Social Security; Brother Muhammad 'Abdallah Al-Mabruk, secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Service; Brother Muhammad Sharif al-Din al-Fayturi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Information and Culture; Brother Ahmad al-Shahati, member of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison; Brother Sulayman al-'Uraybi, secretary of the People's Bureau in Warsaw.

On the Polish side were: Jozef Czyrek, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee; Wladyslaw Gwiazad, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Mr. Zygmunt Surowiec, secretary of the State Council; Marian Orzechowski, minister of foreign affairs; Lieutenant General Michal Janiszewski, minister in charge of Council of Ministers' affairs; Stanislaw Gebala, minister of labor, wages and social affairs; Bogaslaw Kolodziejczak, director of the Chancery of the Secretariat of the PZPR Central Committee; Jerzy Breitkopf, director of the Chancery of the State Council, and Wlodzimierz

Sawczuk, Polish ambassador of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution and Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, held private talks in an atmosphere of mutual cordiality, friendship and understanding on bilateral relations and means of developing them, and on a number of international issues of mutual interest. They expressed their deep satisation at the positive and continuous development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Polish People's Republic. They stressed that the continuation of this development in cooperation will serve the interests of both friendly peoples. They also stressed that the personal and direct contacts between the leaders of both countries have special importance in reinforcing the bonds of friendship and cooperation and deepening mutual understanding. They agreed on strengthening and widening these contacts.

Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski briefed Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the normalization of the situation in Poland and on the measures aimed at strengthening the socialist state and the successful implementation of economic and social development programs in the shadow of the constant economic restrictions against Poland by the United States and some of its NATO allies.

He also briefed him on Poland's foreign policy and its international activities aimed at maintaining peace and security in Europe and the world and at restoring detente in international relations and establishing equitable economic relations among states.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi highly appreciated the internal and external policy of the Polish People's Republic under the leadership of Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski.

The leader of the Great 1 September Revolution briefed Gen Jaruzelski on the great achievements and the massive transformations achieved by the Great 1 September Revolution in the political, economic, and social fields and on the pioneering popular experiment which enabled the Arab Libyan people to obtain the reins of authority, wealth, and arms. He also informed him on Libya's principled policy in supporting the national liberation movements in the world and reinforcing the struggle against colonialism, imperialism, and Zionism.

Gen Jaruzelski expressed his deep appreciation of the achievements accomplished in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahariyah and its principled foreign policy.

The two leaders expressed their satisfaction at the level of the present economic cooperation between the two countries and supported the continuation of its development proceeding from the spirit of the text of the agreements which have been concluded between them. They stressed the importance of the Polish companies' contribution in the implementation of the development programs in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. They also praised the important role played by the Arab Libyan-Polish joint committee for economic cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides reviewed the current international situation. A great closeness and similarity of viewpoints has emerged concerning many of the most important international issues. They expressed their concern over the fact that the tension in the international situation is due to the imperialist policy of imperialism, particularly U.S. imperialism which is seeking to achieve strategic supremacy, to move the arms race into space with the aim of imposing its hegemony over the world, to carry out flagrant interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states, and to create hotbeds of tension in various areas, particularly in the Arab region and Africa.

In this regard both sides have agreed on the necessity of intensifying efforts in order to maintain international peace and security [words indistinct]. They support the initiatives and efforts exerted by the socialist community states, and primarily the Soviet Union, aiming at the elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons, the nonmilitarization of space and the halting of the arms race.

Both sides stressed the importance of the meeting between the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and the U.S. President in Geneva; and they hope that this will be a step toward complete disarmament, the removal of the specter of war, and the attainment of international peace and security.

In this framework both sides expressed their support for the Soviet proposals concerning total disarmament, curbing the arms race, and preventing it from moving to space. Both sides have expressed their profound concern over the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries and the Mediterranean basin, including those deployed in Comiso base in Sicily which constitute a threat to the security of the socialist community states and the Mediterranean region and the Arab countries.

Both sides called for the removal of those missiles and for the transformation of the Mediterranean into a zone of peace, free from foreign bases and the danger of nuclear terrorism. In this respect, they emphasized that the security of the Mediterranean is closely linked to the security of Europe. They expressed their support for the principles contained in the final statement of the CSCE conference, and the necessity of respecting territorial sovereignty and existing borders on this continent.

Both sides attach special interest to the grave situation in the Arab region resulting from the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories and its constant aggression against the Arab nation with the support of U.S. imperialism. They strongly condemned the policy of aggression and expansion practiced by the Zionist entity against the Arab nation with the cooperation of the United States, including the air raid on the Tunisian republic, to which many Palestinians and Tunisians fell victim. They condemn the acts of air piracy carried out by the U.S. Air Force against civilian airplanes in the Mediterranean.

The two sides condemn all unilateral surrender attempts and solutions which essentially seek to liquidate the Palestinian issue,

stressing that a just and lasting peace in the Arab region cannot be achieved without the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist enemy from all the occupied Arab lands, and the realization of national rights of the Arab Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, and to establish their own independent state on their own land under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

The two sides condemn the imperialist and reactionary attempts to break up Palestinian resistance movement and the PLO and assert the need to restore unity to the liberation movement and the organization on a progressive, anti-imperialist, and anti-Zionist basis, and the need for their unity with the progressive Arab countries.

The two sides condemn the U.S. military presence in the Arab region and its interference in the domestic affairs of the states of the region, which constitutes a threat to the security and independence of those states. The two sides also condemn the U.S. military, economic, and propaganda encroachments, provocations and pressure against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and also the military maneuvers conducted by the United States in the Mediterranean, in the Gulf of Sidra, and on Libya's Eastern borders.

The People's Republic of Poland expresses its full support for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in all the measures it takes to defend its sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, and territorial waters. The two sides express support for the struggle of the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces against the Zionist aggression and for the preservation of their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and they call for the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist and hireling forces in southern Lebanon and for an end to foreign interference in Lebanon's internal affairs.

The two sides affirm that solidarity, unity, and cohesiveness between the Arab countries are fundamental conditions for an effective confrontation of imperialist and Zionist policies in the region. In this respect, Poland lauds the important role played by the Jamahiriyah in the process of realization of Arab unity. The two sides also underline the importance of cohesion between all the progressive forces and the socialist states in their struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism, and racism.

In reviewing the situation in Africa, the two sides emphasized the importance of the OAU as an important factor in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, and racism and in the defense of the independence of the African states and their freedom and independent development.

The two sides condemn the attempts by imperialism to interfere in the internal affairs of the continent's states; they call for a halt to this interference and support the efforts of the OAU to bring about peace and national reconciliation in Chad. They also denounce the criminal policy of apartheid practiced by the racist regime in South Africa, and voice their solidarity with the growing struggle to liquidate this regime.

The two sides condemn the illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist South African regime, underlining the need for the implementation of UN resolutions concerning that country's independence. They also condemn the military aggressions mounted by the regime against neighboring African states.

The two sides affirm their solidarity with the people of Nicaragua, with the struggle of the peoples of Chile, El Salvador, and other peoples of Latin America, and they condemn the open U.S. interference in the affairs of those states. The two sides stress the need for rebuilding international economic relations and the setting up of a new international economic system based on the principles of justice and quality, which would help in eliminating the exploitation of the resources of the developing states by international monopolies. This would guarantee respect for the legitimate sovereignty of peoples over their resources and the use of these resources for the good of their own economic development.

The two sides strongly condemn all forms of economic restrictions and pressure imposed by the U.S. Administration against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the People's Republic of Poland. The two sides underline their right to demand compensations as a result of these restrictions and pressure. They also affirm the right of states to obtain urgent compensation for damage caused to them by colonialism, occupation, foreign military operations in their lands, and the legacy of wars.

The Libyan side has expressed understanding for the Polish initiative concerning the setting up of a state center for studying issues pertaining to debts and their relation to development. The two sides highly appreciated the role and activity of the Nonaligned Movement in its struggle against imperialism and Zionism, for preserving peace, for an end to arms race, and for promoting international cooperation. In this respect, Poland highly appreciates the active role of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the Nonaligned Movement.

The two sides stressed the need to strengthen the United Nations Organization and to increase its efficiency in order to preserve international peace and security. The two sides urge the U.S. Government, on whose territory the UN Headquarters is located, to voice its strict commitment to discharge its duties to all the UN member-states regarding the arrival of their delegation without any obstructions to UN Headquarters, and to secure the appropriate conditions for them to perform their work.

Army Gen Wojciech Jaruzelski and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, expressed their complete satisfaction with the results of the talks, pointing out that this visit effectively contributes to the promotion of friendship between the two countries and the development and expansion of bilateral cooperation between them in all spheres.

During the visit, the following agreements were concluded: an agreement concerning judicial cooperation in civil, commercial; and criminal matters and in personal status; an agreement concerning social security; the minutes of a broadcasting agreement;

the minutes of an agreement on promoting economic, industrial, and technical cooperation.

There is agreement between the two sides to coordinate their foreign policy, and they called on the officials responsible for foreign policy in their respective countries to formulate a program to achieve this.

Army Gen Jaruzelski voiced his deep thanks for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and the delegation accompanying him during his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He extended an invitation to brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, to pay an official friendly visit to Poland. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction. Its date will be set later.

'Official' Farewell

LD021350 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1134 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dec (JANA) Lieutenant General Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this morning after a 3-day visit to the SPLAJ [Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah].

The guest and his accompanying delegation were accorded an official farewell and the leader of the revolution led those who saw them off. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salaam Ahmad Jallud, Major al-Khuwayldi al-Humaydi, the secretary and members of the General People's Congress, the secretary and members of the General People's Committee, some officers of the Armed Dorces, members of the diplomatic missions accredited to the Jamahiriyah, and a large crowd of Polish people who are working in the Jamahiriyah also participated in the farewell ceremony.

Jaruselski Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi

LD021940 Tripoli JANA in English 1828 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Awal 19, Dec. 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Gen. Jaruzelski sent a cable to the leader of the revolution on his departure from the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which read as follows:

As I depart from the hospitable land of Libya, I would like to renew our many thanks to you and to the Libyan Arab people from the warm reception we and the people's Polish delegation received during our official and friendly visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. We were impressed by what we witnessed of the social and economic accomplishments achieved in your country by the effect of the Libyan revolution. We express pleasure towards the talks we held and which will assit in strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation in various fields between our two states and peoples and consolidate our joint contacts in the international circles.

I send to you and the friendly Libyan Arab people the best of wishes for your success and comprehensive prosperity in Jamahiriyah's march on the road of progress.

Syria's Khaddam Arrives in Tripoli 2 Dec

LD021303 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1149 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Dec (JANA) — The Syrian vice president, brother 'Abd al-Halam Khaddam, arrived this morning in Tripoli on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He was welcomed on arrival at Tripoli International Airport by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud.

Pledges Support Against 'Plots'

LD021612 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpt] In a statement to JANA, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has said that Syria has decided to place all its capabilities at the disposal of the Libyan Arab people and of its revolutionary leadership in their confrontation with imperialist and reactionary plots which aim to undermine the Libyan people's freedom and the security of its territory. He said: I have been delegated by President Hafiz al-Asad and by the Syrian leadership to come to Tripoli to inform the leader of the revolution and the revolutionary leadership in Libya of Syria's position vis-a-vis the plot directed against Libya, which we consider a plot against the Arab nation as a whole. He said that this plot is aimed at forcing a state of subjugation and surrender on the Arab nation as much as it is aimed against Libya.

He said: We are warning those who are thinking of attacking Libya that they will be confronted by Libya's and Syria's capabilities together, simultaneously, on the basis of the unity that binds the one Arab people in two countries. He added that although Al-Sadat violated the constitution of the Federation of Arab Republics by visiting occupied Palestine and trying to [word indistinct] federal institutions, the federation has a legitimate basis and still exists, and we will stand by our brothers in the Libyan Arab region, who are confronting an imperialist reactionary plot, with all our capabilities and might.

Meets With Jaruzelski

JN021853 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with General Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers Party, in Tripoli today and conveyed to him a message from President Hafiz al-Asad.

Meeting With Al-Qadhdhafi

LD022007 Tripoli JANA in English 1913 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Awal, Dec. 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Today the leader of the revolution received 'Abd

al-Halim Khaddam the vice-president of the Syrian Arab Republic who conveyed a message from the Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Iranian Embassy in Tripoli on U.S. 'Plots'
LD021851 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpts] The Islamic Republic of Iran Embassy in Tripoli has issued a statement on the U.S. imperialist and reactionary lackeys' threats against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The statement reads: As continuation of U.S. imperialist plots against progressive and free countries in the world, we witness yet again an escalation of military provocations and terrorist action by the U.S. Administration against a friendly and fraternal country, the Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and its heroic people.

While condemning the plots hatched by U.S. imperialism and its lackeys in the region against fraternal Libya, the Islamic Republic of Iran announces that it stands by the Libyan revolution — the Great 1 September Revolution — with all its might, and opposes military pressures and threats from imperialism and reactionism.

[signed] The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah

JANA Editor Denies Mediation Attempt With Egypt
LD031239 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1205 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Tripoli, 3 Dec (JANA) — Arab and foreign media have again carried reports about an attempt at mediation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Egyptian regime. The JANA political editor says in response that these reports are untrue, completely without foundation, and nothing but fabrications.

The JANA political editor adds that those who issue and disseminate such reports have not the slightest understanding of the firm principled stances of the Jamahiriyah, which refuses to negotiate with any Arab party that deals with the Zionist enemy, let alone one which recognizes him and makes peace with him.

The JANA editor reaffirmed that Libya would never accept any mediation between itself and another country which is fettered by the stable David shackles and whose regime has committed high treason and turned Egyptian territory into military bases for the United States.

LA REPUBBLICA Cited on Egyptair Deaths
LD011125 Tripoli JANA in English 0836 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Rome, Rabi Awal 18, December 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Italian newspaper *LA REPUBBLICA* yesterday quoted medical reports as saying that the massacre of innocents on the Egyptian airliner in Malta was carried out by Egyptian forces. The paper said medical examination showed that most of the passengers died as a result of poisonous gas bombs thrown on passengers by the forces of the puppet Egyptian regime.

The paper asserted that one of the passengers gave evidence affirming that the Egyptian soldiers fired indiscriminately on passengers which increased the toll of victims.

Gorbachev Adviser Lauds Al-Qadhdhafi USSR Visit
LD031111 Tripoli JANA in English 0955 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Geneva, Rabi al Awal 20, December 3, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Yuriy Primakov, adviser to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, said that the visit paid by the leader of the revolution to Moscow was a useful one.

In comments he made to Arab and International *Al-NAHAR* magazine, he described the Soviet-Libyan economic relation as good.

It is to be recalled that Mr Primakov was a member of the Soviet delegation which accompanied the Soviet leader in the U.S.-USSR summit held on 19th November.

MOROCCO

European-Arab Parliamentary Conference Opens
LD301610 Rabat MAP in English 1213 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Rabat, Nov 30 (MAP) — The conference of the Euro-Arab parliamentary dialogue opened here Friday in the presence of representatives of 14 Arab parliaments including the Palestinian National Council (PNC) and others from European Parliament as well as those in the General Secretariat of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU), the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation (PAEAC).

Participants in this two day conference, the second to be hosted by Morocco, have started looking into several topics, namely the report on the joint activities of the APU and PAEAC since the Madrid conference, the Euro-Arab cooperation in the aim to bring about a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem, current economic relations between Arab and Western Europe countries and the joint action plan between the APU and the PAEAC to push forward the process of the Euro-Arab parliamentary dialogue in line with the resolutions of the Madrid conference.

SUDAN

Cabinet Decides To Limit 'Illegal Strikes'
GF021845 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1728 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Dec (SUNA) — The Council of Ministers yesterday issued a decree adopting some measures to limit the phenomenon of illegal strikes. The decision came in accordance

with the debate during the Council of Ministers' session on 20 November.

The measures are not to meet any demands or enter into negotiations with any party that goes on strike before all steps stipulated by the law are exhausted. The measures also include the imposition of penalties stated by the law against anyone who may take part in any illegal strike. Media will be used to guide people by making them understand the seriousness of the increase of strikes and the effect which this will have on economic life.

The Council of Ministers also decided that the ministerial council in charge of reviewing differentials in the structures of the professional sectors form a technical committee to prepare a scientific study on the differentials which arose after the application of the new wages and salaries scale. The ministerial committee will submit its final report to the Council of Ministers within 2 months.

TMC Head Denies Mediating Between Libya, Egypt

GF300906 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0715 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 30 Nov (WAKH) — General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Sudanese Transitional Military Council, has denied reports that his country is mediating between Egypt and Libya. Although my country would welcome the normalization of relations between the two countries, there is no Sudanese mediation between them at present, he said.

In a statement published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, Gen Siwar al-Dhahab said that the Sudanese Armed Forces are committed to handing authority over to the government before 6 April. He expressed the hope that rebel leader John Garang will honor his pledge to settle the problem of the south through dialogue. Sudan is burdened with a foreign debt of $9 billion, with about $1 million [as received] in annual interest on this debt. I am making efforts with my brothers in the Gulf countries to offer aid in order to overcome Sudan's economic problems. I have received a good response from the Gulf countries in helping Sudan to solve its problems, he said.

Gen Siwar al-Dhahab expressed thanks to the UAE Government which has extended valuable aid to his country. My visit to the UAE in the near future will be to participate in the celebrations of its 14th independence day.

Attorney General Orders Release of 34 Detainees

JN021034 Khartoum SUNA in English 1017 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rabi Awal 19/Dec. 2 (SUNA) — Some 34 detainees of those accused of participation in the recent conspiracy led by Philip Ghabbush, leader of the Sudanese National Party and 11 militants from the police central reserve force were decided to be immediately set free for lack of adequate evidence, announced Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati.

He said the militants were decided to be handed over to headquarters of police central reserve force to look into their case administratively and arrange for their release according to procedures of the police ordinance. He said he had also directed the investigation committee to expedite investigating the remaining 27 detainees including the leader of the conspiracy and to submit it to him in final report on them within not more than 2 weeks for final decision.

Attorney General Expels Three Relief Groups

JN301526 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Nov (SUNA) — Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati has recently issued a decision expelling three voluntary relief organizations operating in the country after their involvement in transporting Falashas to Israel was confirmed.

In a statement to the press, the attorney general explained that these organizations are: the Joint Voluntary Agency, the International Catholic Immigration Society, and the semi- governmental Immigration Society, pointing out that these organizatosn worked in the country without legal licenses.

The attorney general also said that he has decied to form a committee to review the activities of voluntary groups operating in the country in order to draw up new rules for their activities, to organize the process of granting them the necessary permits for their voluntary missions, to set specific periods of time for their work, and to inflict punishment on them if they violate laws.

Chief of Staff Rejects Garang Conditions

JN011050 Khartoum SUNA in English 1032 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 1, (SUNA) — The proposed constitutional conference will be held soon even it is not attended by leader of Sudan People's Liberation Movement Colonel John Garang, TMC Member Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil said, adding that there are many ethnic tribal and political problems could not be postponed and the conflict with Garang is one them, he said.

In a statement to the daily newspaper *AL-AYYAM* Khalil said that the Transitional Military Council (TMC) was ready to delegate a representative to negotiate with Garang if he wants to come here. He rejected the presence of an armed SPLM unit to accompany the SPLM delegation to the conference as Garang proposed.

TMC Member on Security Situation in Kurmuk

JN021029 Khartoum SUNA in English 1010 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 2 — SUNA — TMC Member Gen Taj al-Din 'Abdallah Fadl has denied allegations of "SPLA" [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] troops massing around the border town of Kurmuk.

He said that Kurmuk was declared a military zone following the "SPLA" attacks on some villages near the town.

He pointed out that the Army will immediately crush any attacks launched by the SPLA against Kurmuk town.

He reaffirmed the People's Armed Forces commitment to the cease-fire agreement and added that force will only be used in case of self defence.

He explained that security situation in all regions is good and under control.

Loro on Security Situation in Bahr al-Ghazal

JN301754 Khartoum SUNA in English 1742 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 30, SUNA — Transitional Military Council General James Loro affirmed that the security situation is tranquil in Bahr al-Gahzal area. He affirmed that Sudanese People's Liberation Army, SPLA had no activities there.

Security situation is calm in Malakal but the situation in the other centers in the upper Nile administrative area is unstable due to the activities of SPLA, Loro said.

Recently returning from the southern region after paying a visit there, Loro said that he will next Tuesday furnish the TMC with a report on the visit to take the necessary measures towards the administrative position in the south.

Garang Forces' Activities in Central Region Cited

JN301100 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 30 (SUNA) — The inhabitants of Kurmuk, a border town in the Central Region, have been evacuated as precautionary measure for fear of being raided by Garang forces. Units of Garang forces raided Tuesday night a near by village called Al-Nazir village but losses have not been determined yet. However, police and Army units supported by retired military elements as volunteers have been put on alert to protect Kurmuk. In another development and according to close sources, the SPLA representative in Nairobi is enagaged in transporting recruits for the SPLM from southern Sudan through Kenya to Addis Ababa.

The SPLA units in Bahr al-Ghazal and Kapoeta areas have turned their hostility towards their own country, particularly at Kapoeta where they accused people of collaboration with the Army, SUNA learnt. They began to murder innocents after looting their possessions besides planting mines which claimed the lives of several persons, said the sources. SPLA units that fled southwards after the battle of Kapoeta looted convoys of trucks along Kenya Juba highway. Other units at Bahr al-Gazal also committed the same crimes against innocent people but in the end fighting rose between those units themselves, SUNA learnt.

Some tribal chiefs in the region complained to the SPLA representative in Nairobi who travelled afterwards to Addis Ababa to inform the SPLA headquarters about such incidents, the sources said. Meanwhile the SPLA sent a delegation to Kenya headed by Yusuf Kuwa to seek aid for the movement. Some Sudanese have approached Kuwa advising him to enter dialogue with the government but he informed them that he was bound by the majority of opinion and that any opposing attitude on his part would ccause him to be replaced by any of his countrymen, SUNA learnt. Listeners to SPLA radio have recently noticed that the radio has begun polishing somebody called Muhammad Harun claiming that both KUWA and Harun represent Muba tribe in the movement.

Some 18,000 people have been evacuated from Kurmuk, a border town in the central region, to the nearby villages as the town was threatened by rebel forces of John Garang who gathered some seven km out of it. The area is suffering acute fuel and food shortage due to insecurity of transportation. The rebels who numbered 4,000 were said to have mined all roads leading to the area. Army and police units defending the town yesterday shelled rebel concentrations forcing them to retreat from their previous positions.

SPLA Radio Reports Attacks on Government Troops

24 November Clash

EA022203 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Radio SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] correspondent accompanying Shark Battalion has turned in the details of the clash between the SPLA and Siwar al-Dhahab's forces that took place on 24th November 1985 between Yirao and (Aruniel) in Bahr al Ghazal Adminisrative area. According to our correspondent, the SPLA ambushed Siwar al-Dhahab's troops around Yirol following reports from the citizens that Siwar al-Dhahab's troops had raided the area. In his fight, 31 enemy soldiers were killed and 51 wounded.

26 November Raid

LD022203 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Reports reaching radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] from Kapoeta have said that SPLA forces shelled Kapoeta and raided the government army garrison on 26 November 1985 in retaliation for repeated provocations by the enemy. According to our correspondent in Kapoeta, SPLA forces also carried out another bombardment on the enemy positions at the school and on Boma Road. As a result of these bombardments, the enemy's ammunition store by the commander's house near the main market was gutted to the ground. The enemy also suffered further heavy casualties in men and materials when SPLA raided its headquarters for the second time on 28 November 1985.

More Falasha Testimonies Heard; Court Recesses

JN011103 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 1, (SUNA) — State Security Tribunal examining transportation of Ethiopian Jews to Israel across Sudan will go in recess for the next week.

Adjournment was declared by court chief Magistrate 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abdu 'Abd al-Rahman in today's session explaining that recess was prompted by forthcoming meetings of high

judiciary council in which he is member and because the hall would be used by another tribunal considering charges against former Presidential Affairs Minister Dr. Baha' al-Din Muhammad Idris. Tribunal will resume session December 8.

In yesterday session, court heard testimonies of three prosecution witnesses — a tourism official, a passports officer and an aviation officer. Muhammad Mahyub Amin a retired army colonel, who is now executive manager of Sudanese International Tourism Company, said that 'Arusah tourist village on Red Sea hills, east Sudan, was rented to a Swiss company he did not name for three years against 40,000 dollars for first, 75,000 dollars for second and 125,000 dollars for third year. He said Swiss company assumed full responsibility of running the village, bringing in tourists and rendering services. He recalled that 'Arusah hosted the American ambassadors and military attaches in Khartoum and Cairo Feb. 25. 1983. Amin said the Swiss company had no branch and was not registered in Sudan. The rental contract was not examined by the attorney general at the time, he said. The people who rented 'Arusah fled on April 16, ten days after the ousting of Numayri, using a plane. Amin said he noticed traces of the plane when he later visited the place in the company of security officials. He denied knowledge of any irregularities in 'Arusah but he said it was rumoured that foreigners there were spies.

Col. (Police) Yahya Abu Bakr Mahmud, chief of Khartoum passports police, testified that passports department procedure which he said was not observed in case of the Falashas. The department was not even notified of their departure, the witness said.

Aviation security officer Muhammad Makki Saddiq said he was instructed by Khartoum Airport director to ensure safe take off of a Belgian plane which took Falashas from the airport. He said he had never noticed presence of any passports.

Interior Minister Returns From Gulf Tour

JN021135 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Dec (SUNA) — Interior Minister General 'Abbas Madani returned to Khartoum last night after a tour of Kuwait, the UAE, and Qatar within the framework of strengthening security relations and consolidating cooperation between Sudan and the Gulf states.

TUNISIA

Jaruzelski Visit May 'Defuse' Tensions in Region

LD030851 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0738 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Nabil Barad'i dispatch]

[Excerpts] Tunis, 3 Dec (KUNA) — Chairman of the Polish Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski, will tomorrow begin a 2-day state visit to Tunisia at the invitation of his Tunisian counterpart, President Habib Bourguiba, within a tour which has already taken him to Libya and Algeria.

Informed sources in the Tunisian capital say that Jaruzelski's tour aims at informing the leaders of the countries he is visiting that Libya will not be alone should the United States contemplate carrying out "any operations" against the regime Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, whether by the United States directly or through other parties.

These sources add that the Polish chairman carries with him detailed reports about civilian and non-civilian political operations the United States was working on to change the political scene in a number of Arab Maghreb countries including countries which could be described as "friendly" to Washington.

The sources point out that Jaruzelski's mission was not a Polish mission in as much as it is a mission reflecting the position of the socialist camp led by the USSR.

The question that is being asked by everyone in Tunis is whether the Polish chairman will be able to defuse the tension timebomb that has been threatening to explode Tunisian-Libyan relations for almost 4 months. This leads to another question: How far would the Tunisian Government be prepared to normalize relations with Libya?

In an exclusive interview with KUNA, Beji Caid Essebsi, Tunisian foreign minister, had stated that "he does not object to reopening dialogue with Libya should it change its policy toward Tunisia, because Tunisia always wishes to have good relations with all its neighbors, particularly its neighbor Libya."

"As to the restoration of cooperation between the two countries," Essebsi said, "this was a different matter, because the Libyan side is required to solve the problem resulting from the expulsion of the Tunisian workers before anything else. I wish to affirm here that the measures adopted by Tunisia in this regard fall within the framework of self-defense."

Despite the accusations Essebsi has levelled against Libya, it can be said that this statement marks a new change in the attitude of his government toward the crisis with the Libyan Government. Up to now, the official Tunisian position has been that there can be no resumption of dialogue with Libya.

Even the mediation conducted by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi on the personal isntructions of President Chedli Bendjedid to remove the causes of tension between Tunisia and Libya during Ibrahimi's visit to Tunis toward the end of November, has failed to produce any tangible results.

The Tunisian foreign minister denied in his statement to KUNA that "there was any Algerian mediation and that Dr Ibrahimi's visit to Tunis falls within the framework of the constant political consultations and exchanges of visits between the officials of both countries."

The Tunisian foreign minister also denied any knowledge of any security coordination between his country and Egypt, saying that "foreign ministers have nothing to do with matters of security."

Asked about the secret visit he paid to Cairo in October, Essebsi said "I have not visited Cairo."

Essebsi denied that the United States was exerting any pressure on Tunisia and Egypt to escalate tension between them and Libya in order to topple the regime of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

It is possible to say that a faint ray of hope seems to emerge from Essebsi's statements about the chances of the resumption of dialogue between Tunisia and Libya as a first step toward the normalization of conditions, though the realization of this does not seem easy in the foreseeable future.

It must be stated also that the final say in matters of Tunisian policy rests with President Bourguiba alone to the exclusion of all aides.

Depending on what President Bourguiba will tell his Polish counterpart, the chances of Jaruzelski's success in defusing the timebomb in the tense relations between Tunisia and Libya remains hanging in the air.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Announces Moroccans Killed, Injured in Clashes

LD010310 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] A communique issued by the SDAR Ministry of Information and Culture announced that 20 Moroccan soldiers had been killed and 33 others injured as a result of a series of operations mounted by the ALPS against the invading Moroccan forces' positions from 12 to 25 November.

The operations, which had been launched by the Saharan fighters against other Moroccan positions in various parts of the occupied territory of the Western Sahara, resulted in the destruction of important quantities of military equipment.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu, DPRK's Yi Chong-ok Tour Aseb

EA031144 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam has laid a foundation stone for a shipyard, which will be the first of its kind in Ethiopia. The yard will contribute to strengthening maritime transport and will enable revolutionary Ethiopia to exploit its existing marine resources. The ceremony also marked the start of construction work on a marine training and research institue that will support the maritime transport sector with qualified personnel. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia] Central Committee, PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council] chairman, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces laid the foundation stone for the two institutions during his working tour of Aseb Province today.

On arrival in Aseb, our comrade revolutionary leader and comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Politburo of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and vice president of the DPRK, were received by Comrade Tekle Mariam Mengistu, first secretary of Aseb Province's WPE Committee; WPE committee members of the province; Comrade Ibrahim Mohamed, administrator of Aseb Province; and residents of the town. Our comrade revolutionary leader then proceeded to Haleb Island, where he inaugurated the recently built causeway that links the island with the main road.

Next, Comrade Yusuf Ahmed, member of the WPE Central Committee and minister of transport and communications, gave a briefing in which he pointed out that the shipyard on Haleb Island is being constructed with the cooperation of the DPRK. He said that the yard would build a variety of ships of different types and capacity capable of carrying loads weighing between 5 and 150,000 tons which would be used for fishing, for transporting goods and people, and for similar services. Comrade Yusuf explained that the ships would be constructed from wood and metal and that the wooden ships in particular would contribute to the modern exploitation of fish resources. He added that the ship factory would open up employment opportunities for thousands of Ethiopians.

Comrade Yusuf stated that construction work would begin soon on the marine training and research institute on Haleb Island, which will serve as a center for the development of marine technology in our country and for the training of qualified personnel to manage this sector. He added that when completed, the institute would train up to 1,000 students annually in the areas of port management, marine engineering, marine biology, nautical science, and comprehensive marine studies.

Our comrade revolutionary leader inspected construction work on housing which is being stepped up in line with the plan to modernize the general working system of Aseb port and town. Present during the working visit were: Comrade Addis Tedla, member of the Politburo of the WPE Central Committee and deputy chairman of the National Committee for Central Planning; Comrade Kasa Gebre, alternate member of the Politburo of the WPE Central Committee and minister of construction; WPE Central Committee members; commissioners; the high-ranking DPRK delegation headed by Comrade Yi Chong-ok; and ambassadors of the two countries.

Industry Minister Meets DPRK Minister

EA030652 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] A discussion aimed at assessing cooperation in the industrial sector between Revolutionary Ethiopia and the DPRK was under way today at the Ministry of Industry's Conference Hall. The talks were held between Comrade Hailu Yemenu, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee Politburo and minister of industry, and Comrade Chong Song-nam, DPRK minister of external economic affairs.

In the talks, which dealt extensively with the two countries' relations and cooperation in the industrial sector, special attention was given to the industrial projects initiated with the DPRK's cooperation. The talks also covered the views of a delegation led by the deputy minister of the metal industry following its recent inspection tour of industrial and production institutions. Comrade Hailu Yemenu and the Comrade DPRK Minister of External Economic Affairs held successful discussions in an atmosphere of comradely friendship and understanding on the basis of understanding reached during previous talks and visits.

KENYA

Rebels Release Hijacked Plane; Lands in Nairobi

EA011643 Nairobi Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Further reports say that the NRA, which is opposed to the military government in Uganda, has accepted President Moi's call that it should release a Uganda Airlines aircraft which had been hijacked to Kasese in Uganda. The plane arrived in Nairobi at 1715 [1415 GMT] this afternoon. President Moi said he is continuing to hold consultations with the leader of Uganda, General Tito Okello, concerning the aircraft.

TANZANIA

Defense Minister Urges Vigilance Against Attacks

EA012041 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Mafinga: Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and national service, has called on the armed forces to be vigilant against attacks by the South African racists on independent southern African countries. Ndugu Salim was speaking to commanders and servicemen of the 30th Division of the Tanzania People's Defense Force at Mafinga in Iringa Region.

He said that the racist regime had frequently attacked southern African frontline states under the pretext of various unfounded allegations. He warned that the recent threat by the racists to invade Zimbabwe on the pretext that it was supporting freedom fighters should not be ignored. Ndugu Salim warned that Tanzania was one of the archenemies of the racists and could therefore be attacked in the same way that other Frontline States were being attacked. He assured the servicemen that the government would continue to seek ways of assisting the defense force to enable it to consolidate national security.

UGANDA

Troops Repulse NRA Rebels in Masaka Area

EA011414 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Nov 85

[Text] A military council spokesman has said that the NRA [National Resistance Army] forces have attacked government military positions along Masaka Road. The NRA also shelled Masaka barracks on Thursday night. The spokesman has stated that the Government forces ably repulsed all these attacks. In Masaka the government troops were equally resisting the invaders.

Information received from close sources [as heard] within the NRM [National Resistance Movement] delegation in Nairobi revealed that the attacks on government positions are being carried out on the instructions of the NRA-NRM leader Yoweri Museveni who has just returned from a trip to Libya with large consignments of arms.

The spokesman disclosed that a document captured by government troops at Katonga confirmed that the NRA has used these weapons to arm the Rwandese returnees being recruited by the NRA. The document, which refers to the Nairobi peace talks as (?circus) whether they succeed or not, shall not be allowed to change the NRM's plans, confirmed Museveni's inept intention to impose himself on the people of Uganda by force of arms. [sentence as heard].

Reports reaching Kampala from Mbarara, Rakai, and Masaka further reveal that the Rwandese returnees together with the NRA are turning the guns against the local population to rob lands and properties and harass and commit acts of revenge against the people in these areas.

The spokesman noted with deep regret that when the Nairobi peace accord is awaiting the respective signatures, the NRM has chosen to wage a military offensive against the people of Uganda. Despite all these uncalled-for provocations, the Military Council spokesman reaffirmed the government's commitment to the peace process through negotiations and will not allow Museveni to use the government commitment to peace to hold the entire country for ransom. The spokesman concluded by assuring all peace-loving Ugandans and the world at large of the government's capability to protect the lives and properties of all people living in Uganda.

Egyptian Embassy Denies Troops in Uganda

EA022205 Nairobi KNA in English 1310 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Nairobi, Dec 2 (KNA) — The Egyptian Embassy in Nairobi has denied allegations that a number of Egyptian soldiers are fighting alongside the Uganda Government forces against opposition forces.

A statement from the embassy released to KNA today alligned [as received] that there is no single Egyptian soldier outside Egype and that such an allegation is completely untrue and only aims at undermining Egypt's peaceful policy and her excellent relations with sister African countries based on no interference in internal affairs and encouraging negotiations and dialogue as means for resolution of conflicts. This was in response to allegations made in Nairobi by the National Resistance Army of Uganda.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Kolingba Announces Committee To Review Constitution

AB011338 Paris AFP in French 1052 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Bangui, 1 Dec (AFP) — The CAR head of state, GeneralAndre Kolingba, announced on Saturday evening that in January 1986 the government will set up a national committee to review the constitution and determine the stages for the process of democratizing political life in the CAR.

Addressing the nation in a radio and television broadcast on the occasion of the 27th independence anniversary, President Kolingba explained that this decision should lead to the attainment of a national consensus. He also called on all opponents in self-exile abroad to return to their country, affirming that he will try to reassure them through his actions.

Gen Kolingba spoke on the French presence in the CAR,indicating that this was "a sovereign act" and that "They are herebecause we want them. They were not imposed on us."

The CAR head of state then attacked the "demagogues" who denounce this cooperation with France.

"While they fustigate the CAR Government in leaflets and other publications denouncing its cooperation with France, they also publicly put pressure on political personalities and French public opinion to limit this cooperation, which obstructs personal ambition," he declared, adding that "behind the scenes they pledge that if they come to power they will grant more facilities, that is, limit sovereignty."

While reaffirming that the CAR will not tolerate "acts of destabilization against its neighbors on its soil," Gen Kolingba recalled that he approved the "Manta" operation in Chad because it had been requested by the Chadian Government.

In conclusion, Gen Kolingba spoke on economic issues, recalling the problems facing the CAR, problems which according to him were caused by "14 horrible years of dictatorship and 2 years of national division, and the tribal hatred which followed." He then enumerated the results obtained by his government in the past 4 years.

CHAD

France's Nucci Meets With Habre in Ndjamena

AB011242 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Excerpts] French Cooperation Minister Christian Nucci made a short stopover in Ndjamena this morning on his way to Congo. In fact, soon after his arrival in Ndjamena Mr Nucci was received by the head of state, El Hadj Hissein Habre. Their talks, which lasted about an hour in the presence of the secretary of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, the president's permanent undersecretary, and the French ambassador to Chad, enabled the two sides to discuss the various aspects of relations between Chad and France.

The French minister's visit takes place at a time when the Geneva conference on the reconstruction of our country is (?being prepared). In addition, the head of state will personally take part in the French-African summit in Paris. This is also a time when [words indistinct] the policy of dialogue between Chadians, a problem which Chad and France did not fail to examine because this is the core of our problems. After the meeting, Mr Nucci told us that this important point was discussed with the president of the Republic of Chad.

[Begin recording] [Nucci] First of all, these are subjects that President Habre (?and myself) have examined. [passage omitted including indistinct words]

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, the fundamental problem in Chad is the war between Chad and Libya. Is Paris still (?faithful to) the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states? Is Paris (?striving toward) promoting a direct dialogue between Al-Qadhdhafi and Hissein Habre?

[Nucci] (?The establishment of direct contacts) is incumbent upon the two heads of state, because this is [word indistinct]. As you know, the French Government, however, calls for a dialogue between all parties concerned in the Chadian problem. [Passage indistinct] [end recording]

CONGO

Congo-France Joint Session Ends; Minutes Signed

AB011608 Paris AFP in French 1236 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Brazzaville, 1 Dec (AFP) — The minutes of the eigth session of the French-Congolese Grand Joint Commission were signed at the end of the deliberations yesterday in Brazzaville by the Congolese minister of foreign affairs and the French minister of cooperation and development, Antoine Ndinga Oba and Christian Nucci, respectively.

During the signing of the minutes, the contents of which were not disclosed to the press, Mr Ndinga Oba emphasized the determination of both Presidents Francois Mitterrand and Denis Sassou-Nguesso to work "relentlessly" for the establishment of a climate of solidarity and mutual confidence as the "basis for a sincere and efficient cooperation between France and Congo." He also expressed satisfaction with the fact that the greater part of the economic and social objectives envisaged during the meeting "was achieved."

For his part, Mr Nucci, who arrived in Brazzaville yesterday, assured the Congolese side of France's support for Congo's first 5-year development plan and the willingness of Paris to continue to cooperate with Congo in the fields of agriculture, territorial administration, and health.

The French minister also expressed satisfaction with the constructive manner in which the discussions were held, touching on issues of prime importance, especially in the fields of state

enterprises (the National Posts and Telecommunications Department and the National Electric Company), public works,and the prospects of French assistance in the field of road maintenance.

The 8th session of the joint commission, which opened on Thursday, specifically examined Congo's debt owed to the Public Assistance Fund of Paris and Provincial Hospitals, the postal debt [dette postale], current agricultural development projects in some regions of Congo, improving the navigability of Congolese rivers and the request for French participation in the development of small- and medium-scale enterprises in Congo.

The two sides also exchanged views on Congo's development policy and the prospects of cooperation between France and the Congo. Mr Nucci, who will stay in Brazzaville until Monday, will hold discussions with President Sassou-Nguesso and Prime Minister Ange Edouard Poungui, reliable sources disclosed.

GABON

France's Nucci Meets with Bongo; Departs

AB022115 Paris AFP in French 1709 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Libreville, 2 Dec (AFP) — The president of the Republic of Gabon, Mr Omar Bongo, on Monday received in Libreville Mr Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the minister of external relations for cooperation and development. Their discussion, which was followed by a luncheon, dealt mainly with Franco-Gabonese relations, it was indicated by French sources. Chad's problems were also discussed. It is recalled that negotiations have been going on for a week now between a government delegation from Ndjamena and two opposition groups, the Chadian Democratic Front (FDT) and the Chadian Action for Unity and Socialism (ACTUS), which are nonmembers of GUNT [Transitional National Union Government].

The French minister said he will return for an official visit to Libreville in the first two weeks of January. Mr Nucci is currently touring several African countries. On Sunday he met President Hissein Habre in Ndjamena, and on Monday he met Congolese President Sassou-Nguesso.

Mr Nucci left Libreville on Monday afternoon for Lome.

Romanian Economic Delegation Arrives on Visit

AB291120 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] A Romanian economic delegation led by the minister state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Trade arrived in Libreville this morning. The leader of the delegation, Gheorghe Cazan, held talks with the Gabonese foreign minister, Martin Bongo, soon after his arrival.

In continuation of his contacts with Gabonese authorities, Gheorghe Cazan this afternoon paid a courtesy call on the minister of public health and population, Dr Jean-Pierre Okias. Their discussions centered mainly on cooperation between Bucharest and Libreville, particularly in the health sector. Dr Okias,asked his discussion partner to request an increase in [words indistinct] from the Romanian authorities. A Romanian health delegation will visit Libreville to give assistance in the medical field.

It is to be noted that several Gabonese students are pursuing postgraduate studies in Romania.

ZAIRE

USSR Trade Union Delegation Arrives on Visit

AB011721 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1645 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Matadi, 30 Nov (AZAP) — The delegation of the Soviet All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU], comprising Matskyavichyus Kazimeras and Mandrik Anatoliy Dozo, respectively, secretary of Soviet trade unions and chairman of the trade unions of the Krasnoyarsk hydroelectric station, arrived in Inga, Bas-Zaire, on Friday for a 3-day friendship visit to the regional secretary of the National Union of Workers of Zaire (UNTZA).

The delegation, which is accompanied by Dmori Vassi, first secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Zaire, was welcomed upon its arrival at Inga by citizen Siasia Gizengila Mbanza, the UNTZA acting regional secretary in Bas-Zaire. After the welcome ceremonies, the members of the delegation visited the equipment of the Inga hydroelectric dam, the Inga-Shaba direct current conversion plant, and the Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Bridge, before reaching Matadi.

The program of visit to Bas-Zaire of the Soviet AUCCTU delegation includes a working session with the trade union delegates of the enterprises in Matadi and a visit to the International Port of Zaire on Saturday. On Sunday, the members of the delegation will visit the Kisantu Botanical Garden on their way back to Kinshasa.

Delegation Departs

AB021818 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1140 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Matadi, 2 Dec (AZAP) — The Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions delegation, led by the secretary of USSR trade unions, Mr Matskia Vichious Kasimeras [name as received], has recently left Matadi for Kinshasa at the end of a 3-day friendly visit to the regional secretariat of the National Union of Zairian Workers [UNTZA) in Bas-Zaire. The delegation, which was accompanied by Mr Dmiri Vasyi Avitch [name as received], first secretary at the USSR Embassy in Zaire, and citizen Dipesa Ngomba, assistant national secretary of the UNTZA in charge of foreign relations, visited the Dinga hydroelectric dam, the Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Bridge in Bas-Zaire, and the Kisantu Botanical Garden on its way back to the capital.

On Saturday, Mr Kasimeras held discussions in the meeting hall of UNTZA with permanent secretaries of UNTZA and the union representatives of public, private, and parastatal enterprises of the city of Matadi on relations which should exist between the group of affiliated Soviet trade unions and UNTZA. On that occasion, the secretary of USSR trade unions first

thanked the UNTZA/Bas-Zaire for the welcome accorded to his delegation, and then traced the history of the workers movement of his country in the fight for workers' interests. He then drew a parallel between the role of trade unions in the USSR and in Zaire by stressing the identical views held on the struggle for workers' interests.

In his reply, Citizen Dipesa particularly emphasized the peace and solidarity that must exist among the peoples of the world and referred to the good cooperation existing between the two groups of affiliated trade unions.

Earlier, the assistant regional UNTZA secretary had presented a tourist's view of Bas-Zaire to the Soviet trade unionists. A reception organized by citizen Musafiri Abudu, UNTZA regional secretary for Bas-Zaire, during which several gifts were offered to the Soviet delegation, ended the tour of the region.

President Mobutu Receives PRC Commerce Minister

AB291110 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Mr Liu Yi, Chinese commerce minister, who led his country's delegation to the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the Second Republic, left Kinshasa last Wednesday for Beijing via Paris. Shortly before his departure, he was received at Camp Tshatshi by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, to whom he conveyed the best wishes of the government authorities of his country. Minister Liu Yi stated that he was very impressed by all that he saw in Zaire, which demonstrates the unshakeable confidence of the Zairian people in their leader.

The presence of a large Chinese delegation at the activities marking the 20th anniversary of the Second Republic is a symbol of this solidaristic and sincere bond of friendship linking the peoples of China and Zaire as is demonstrated by the exemplary cooperation between them and which Marshal Mobutu lauds constantly.

Draft Agreement Signed With UK Commerce Group

AB301848 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1515 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 30 Nov (AZAP) — The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of London (CCIL) and the Zairian National Association of Enterprises (ANEZA) signed a draft cooperation agreement yesterday at the Aneza headquarters in conformity with their desire to favor and strengthen economic and commercial relations between Great Britain and Zaire.

To this effect, the two sides expressed their commitment to work, through the appropriate means and in collaboration with the organizations and the authorities of their two countries, toward the promotion of their economic and commercial relations. They also expressed their commitment to promote investment, remove all difficulties facing trade and development between the two countries and create and maintain a continuous exchange of economic, commercial, industrial, and financial information between them.

The CCIL and the Aneza have agreed to hold consultations for the organization of business trips, conferences, exhibitions, symposia, round-table conferences, and other forms of activities aimed at intensifying and promoting trade and industry between the two countries.

The two organizations envisaged an increase of reciprocal visits by businessmen in order to help in the smooth dissemination of information to economic operators and to create all structures that they might judge appropriate — such as a joint chamber of commerce — in order to improve upon and strengthen the business relations between the economic circles of Great Britain and Zaire. They agreed to put at the disposal of one another all the services and means needed by the enterprises they represent.

The draft agreement was signed for the British side by Mr B Y. Sandley, president of the CCIL; and for the Zairian side by Citizen Bemda Saolona, president of the Aneza.

The agreement became effective immediately after it was approved and signed by the presidents of the two sides and will remain effective until one of the sides writes to the other asking for its abrogation, suspension, or modification.

On behalf of the British side, the British ambassador to Zaire, who participated in the ceremony, stated that relations between the two countries are excellent and called for the further strengthening and promotion of those relations. He indicated that his country's investments in Zaire are second only to those of Belgium.

ANGOLA

Minister Delivers Message to Mozambique's Machel

LD281640 Lisbon International Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] Angolan External Relations Minister Afonso van Dunem Mbinda paid a lightning visit to Maputo yesterday with a message from President Jose Eduardo dos Santos for Mozambique President Samora Machel. No details of the contents of the message were disclosed, but it is believed to concern the current Lusaka talks between Angolan and U.S. Government representatives. A source close to Mozambique's Presidency of the Republic told the NOTICIAS DE PORTUGAL news agency that it is customary for the two heads of state to consult and brief each other on matters of consequence to their two countries, particularly regarding the course of political developments in southern Africa.

KUP Cites 'Failure' of Meeting in Lusaka

MB010628 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 1 Dec (KUP) — The failure of the Lusaka meeting between the American and MPLA delegations has once again demonstrated that a peaceful solution for southern Africa is not possible without the participation on UNITA. The MPLA intends to deviate international attention and show that it is willing to negotiate a peaceful solution in the subcontinent, while forgetting that in collusion with the Soviets, it is responsible for the destruction, famine, and misery of the Angolan people.

BOTSWANA

Government Establishes Relations With Thailand

MB291411 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Botswana and the Kingdom of Thailand have established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. The Department of External Affairs announced in a news release today that the two countries established the relations to promote the existing friendly links between them. The relations will be based on equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. The two governments have also agreed to exchange representatives at ambassadorial level.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Receives Angolan Foreign Minister

MB280833 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] In Maputo yesterday, President Samora Machel received Angolan Minister of External Relations Afonso van Dunem. The Angolan official traveled to Maputo carrying a message from President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to Marshal Samora Machel. Presidents Samora Machel and Jose Eduardo dos Santos exchange information and views on bilateral relations and the situation in southern Africa on a regular basis. Minister Afonso van Dunem has already returned home.

Foreign Minister Congratulates Romania's Vaduva

MB290949 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Joaquim Chissano has sent a message of congratulation to his counterpart, Ilie Vaduva, on his appointment as head of the Romanian diplomacy. In his message, Joaquim Chissano says that the appointment of Ilie Vaduva shows the trust and prestige that he enjoys among the Romanian people.

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Lifts Emergency in 8 Districts

MB031409 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1407 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 3, SAPA — The state of emergency has been lifted in eight of the 38 magisterial districts where it had applied for the past four months, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today, adding that the revolutionary climate in South Africa's townships was "fast losing momentum".

The emergency regulations would no longer be effective in the towns of Adelaide, Bathurst, Bedford, Delmas, Heidelberg (TVL), Jansenville, Pearston and Sasolburg, Mr Botha said in a statement from Pretoria. The proclmation would be made in a special government gazette today and would have immediate effect, he added.

The emergency, which was first introduced on July 21, still applies in 30 magisterial districts.

"The government is of the opinion that elements that are ideologically opposed to orderly reform, and that went out of their way this year to drive communities in South Africa towards a violent confrontation with each other, are being defeated," Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha said that when he had introduced the emergency, he had undertaken to lift the regulations if certain conditions were met, such as that "normal community life must be recovered so that community services can be rendered efficiently."

It was under these circumstances that the emergency was lifted in the eight towns — five of which are in the Eastern Cape — and in the six magisterial districts on Oct 24, he added.

"There is a growing realisation among all responsible South Africans that communities in the country that have been striving for peace and good neighbourly relations for so many centuries must take the road to a sound future together," Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha, who blamed rioting in certain townships on radical instigators opposed to reform, said the unrest was losing momentum:

"The unrest in a few residential areas in the RSA was evidently not the result of a lack of reform, but can rather be attributed to the instigation of unrest by radical elements that are opposed to the fact of reform.

"It has recently become evident that the revolutionary climate instigated form without our borders among people in South Africa, is fast losing momentum," Mr Botha said. He added that people committed to violence could not offer a peaceful future to the country.

Mr Botha said the differences between South Africa's people could be solved "in a spirit of goodwill and trust by means of negotiation."

"Ideals can only be reached with the full protection of law and acknowledgement of the happiness, welfare, human dignity, life, freedom and property of individuals, and the self-determination of population groups and communities in South Africa."

Businessmen Meet Botha; Demand Speed-Up of Reform
MB010856 Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 1 Dec 85 pp 1,2

[John MacLennan and Dean Delport]

[Text] In a determined effort to end the political and economic crisis in South Africa, the two big business establishments — Afrikaans and English — have combined to demand a speeding-up of reform.

President P.W. Botha is understood to have received a delegation last week which included Mr Harry Oppenheimer, Anglo American's Mr Gavin Relly, Dr Fred du Plessis of Sanlam, former head of Gencor Dr Wim de Villiers and Dr Anton Rupert, who runs the Rembrandt empire.

The group was led by a member of the SA Foundation.

Speaking on their behalf, Mr Relly delivered a blunt "adapt or die" message to the President: speed up reform and abolish apartheid or South Africa will face sanctions and disinvestment.

Giving backing to his words was a powerful coalition of major public corporations in America, Europe and South Africa who have set themselves the task of abolishing apartheid.

A senior Government source described the meeting as friendly. "It was a good evening which created greater understanding."

The common approach by both English and Afrikaner businessmen to demand change was a unique move.

Afrikaner businessmen have always been solidly behind the Government and until recently not even members of the English business establishment were willing to step out of line.

Both groups have previously attended business summits called by the Government and English-speaking busnessmen have since gone as far as expressing their concern at the Government's policies by meeting with the ANC.

On the surface Afrikaner business support was implicit until Dr Rupert recently said mistakes had been made in the past, that a "man of vision" was needed, and all should join forces to build a new South Africa.

Official sources will not admit it, but the pressure exerted by the business community and overseas critics is seen to have had swift practical results with this week's announcement that the Government is taking urgent steps to draw up a series of embryo constitutional options which will be discussed by the authorities and all "legitimate" leaders who eschew violence.

These leaders may include businessmen, clergymen, leaders of the homelands other interested parties.

It is predicted that President Botha could well take advantage of the opening of Parliament to announce an agreed agenda for change and the parameters in which it will take place.

Official sources warned against building up expectations for an easy solution. This week's announcement, they said, followed two years of negotiation in which various parties — such as the leaders of the homelands — had only managed to set various bottom lines.

Agreement has been reached on such general concepts as the protection of minority rights, the acceptance that all change must occur within a legal framework and the right to own property.

Government sources have maintained that other and unnamed black leaders have been consulted, but they have not been able to produce them because of what they describe as the delicacy of the talks.

Meanwhile, to coincide with the actions of major local and U.S. corporations, a second tier of hundreds of smaller English and Afrikaans companies supporting the message to government by the country's largest businesses, are about to launch their own campaign calling for faster reform.

They intend going public within days with calls for faster reform.

Two Johannesburg and two Cape Town businessmen, who have asked not to be named are co-ordinating this latest wave of reformers, and a source close to the organisers said they will soon be following the example of South African and U.S. public corporations who endorsed reform with full-page advertisements in Sunday newspapers titled "There is a better way".

The advertisements in September and November said the reform process could be speeded up by abolishing statutory race discrimination, negotiating with acknowledged black leaders about

power sharing, granting full citizenship to all, restoring and entrenching the rule of law.

"We need more ammunition to fight overseas," said Pick 'n Pay chairman Raymond Ackerman, who this week returned from Paris and London, where he and other top SA private-sector leaders met major U.S. and European retailers and manufacturers.

"By South African businessmen standing up and being counted with actions like their advertisements calling for more reform, we have given U.S. and European companies a reason to stay in the country and to continue buying SA produce," he said.

Businessman Denies Quote

MB021519 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1500 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 2, SAPA — Dr Wim de Villiers, leader of a group of influential businessmen who were alleged to have given the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, an "adapt or die" message last week, today denied that this was the case.

Reacting to the report in Johannesburg's *SUNDAY STAR* newspaper, Mr de Villiers said in a statement to SAPA:

"As a member of the party of South African businessmen who recently held talks in London with a group of American businessmen to discuss ways and means in which they could assist initiatives by South African businessmen — particularly to assist a process of urban renewal, teaching and training — my attention has been drawn to a report which claimed that the delegation visited the state president to deliver an adapt or die message.

"As leader of the group that visited the state presdient I must state emphatically on behalf of this group that this was not the case at all; our cordial meeting with the state president involved no confrontation whatsoever.

"We discussed useful initiatives which might be taken in a spirit of cooperation in the interests of South Africa."

Department Clarifies Statement on Federal Option

MB021736 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The Department of Constitutional Development and Planning has clarified an earlier statement on a federal option for South Africa, saying it would be wrong to see this as the only possibility under consideration in the investigation it is undertaking. A spokesman, Mr Neville Krige, says in a statement that his department has not bound itself to one constitutional model. Aspects and elements of a number of models and structures are being looked at.

Heunis Says Speed of Reform Depends on Economy

MB281128 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1128 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] Germiston, Nov 28, SAPA — The level of economic development and the strength of the economy were major pacesetters for constitutional reform, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said today. This was because reform aimed at broadening democracy placed great strain on a country's financial resources, he told a meeting of the Germiston Industrial Association.

Political development and change depended, inter alia, on the strength and viability of the economy because greater participation in decision-making implied the opening up of formal channels for the articulation of economic demands.

"The economy is, therefore, a crucial determinant of the viability and permanence of newly-created democratic institutions and processes, because such institutions have little hope of success if it does not offer or entail the prospect of greater material benefits for the majority of the population," Mr Heunis said. The economy also influenced constitutional reform to the extent it determined what was affordable and what was not.

Although economic factors might, and in fact had to, influence the complexity or sophistication of the structures through which the objective of democratic participation in government by everybody, they should never be allowed to detract from the objective, he said.

"Political stability has a profound influence on foreign and local investiment, because an unstable political environment involves greater risk for the entrepreneur.

"The existing perception with regard to the South African political environment is certainly one of the important reasons for the present economic difficulties experienced by South Africa."

Furthermore, Mr Heunis said, the economic factor was often, as was the case now, applied as a political weapon to influence political developments through sanctions or disinvestment campaigns.

"Bearing in mind that effective reform to a large extent depends on a strong economy, actions of this kind are futile, counterproductive and serve only to demonstrate the international community's lack of understanding and sympathy for the process of reform in general and present constitutional and other developments in South Africa in particular."

Mr Heunis also said the present unrest, like disinvestment campaigns, "seriously hampers the process of reform."

Violence was not conducive to peaceful reform and it was for this reason only — "not for reason of oppression or protection of the status quo" — that the government acted very strongly against unrest and violence.

"Violence opposes, and if allowed to flourish, will kill, reform," he said.

It also had to be understood, however, that a degree of uncertainty, instability and even violence, was a normal side-effect of reform processes.

In spite of these and other impeding factors, the resistance from some quarters and the economic recession, "reform is continuing at every South African," he said.

Le Grange Denies Shots Fired From Helicopter

MB021647 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1644 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 2, SAPA — The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, today denied that police fired sharp ammunition and tear smoke from a helicopter at crowds in Mamelodi two weeks ago, where 13 people died as a result of police action.

Mr le Grange said in a statement from Pretoria the allegations were made by Mr Peter Soal, Progressive Federal Party MP for Johannesburg North, who "through the media... has uttered wild allegations" regarding police involvement in the incident.

Mr Soal apparently held a news conference over the weekend where he made available "so-called sworn affadivits from so-called eye-witnesses" who alleged that police fired sharp ammunition and tear smoke from a helicopter.

"This allegation is a blatant lie and I am disappointed that a member of parliament should spread such a false allegation world-wide," Mr le Grange said.

"Mr Soal has to date not taken the trouble to let me have a copy of his alleged report but has instead made all manner of wild and one-sided allegations, well-knowing that the police do not make use of such methods," he added.

Police Acted in Defense

MB291622 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1546 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 29, SAPA — The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, said today the deaths in Mamelodi last week occurred when police had to defend themselves during petrol bomb attacks on policemen, police vehicles and five policemens homes.

Speaking at a passing-out parade at the police training college in Pretoria, Mr le Grange said that since unrest flared in September 1984, 27 members of the force had died in unrest-related incidents and almost R2-million damage had been caused by the destruction of more than 550 police homes — mostly through petrol bomb attacks. Many more policemen had been injured and large numbers of police vehicles destroyed or seriously damaged.

He criticised "do-gooders and monitor commissions" for not approaching the police families left homeless or the relatives of murdered policemen, and hit out at those who tried to "belittle or denigrate" the police force.

Mr le Grange said a propaganda campaign of new proportions was being waged against the SAP and groups had literally embarked on a house-to-house search for any grievances against the police — in an attempt publicly to question their actions or credibility.

Certain newspapers termed the police "racist, authoritarian and stupid" and made them out to be "ill-educated, poorly-equipped, undisciplined villains."

Despite criticism, the police had excelled in carrying out their task over the past year under difficult circumstances. Daily police duties had not suffered even though about 6000 policemen had been withdrawn from normal duties to help curb the unrest and large numbers also had to be withdrawn to serve on the border. These men would return next month and relieve pressure on police in unrest areas, he said.

12 Killed in Mamelodi Police Action Buried

'Calm But Tense'

MB030730 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0726 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Pretoria, Dec 3, SAPA — Mamelodi was calm but tense this morning before the funeral service of 12 people who died from police action on November 21. The mass funeral is to be held at a local stadium. About 80 per cent of Mamelodi residents responded to a work stayaway call.

Buses and taxis were not running, leaving thousands of would-be commuters stranded. Trains were running, but some people seemed to avoid the two stations serving the Mamelodi, east of Pretoria. Some taxis were running into the city from the outskirts.

Black townships to the west of Pretoria, Atteridgeville, Ga-Rankuwa, Mabopane and Soshanguve showed no signs of a stayaway. Traffic ran normally and the townships were peaceful.

In Mamelodi, handbills calling for peace and calm during the funeral service were distributed overnight. Their origin could not be established. Since early this morning, residents were seen standing in groups on the streets.

Western Diplomats Attend

MB031138 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1125 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Mamelodi, Dec 3, SAPA — About 80 per cent of Mamelodi residents stayed away from work today — with many Pretoria businesses and some motor plants hard hit — as the mass funeral of 12 unrest victims began at the local sports stadium. The 12 were among those who died during police action in Mamelodi on November 21.

Diplomats from 11 Western nations joined the thousands of mourners heading for the funeral in what they said was a move to convey the sympathy of their countries as well as to protest at

police conduct. Representatives from Britain, The Netherlands, the United States, Canada, Belgium, France, Italy, Sweden and West Germany, drove in convoy.

Dr Nico Smith, chairman of the Pretoria Council of Churches, said police had promised to keep a low profile today after lifting their requirements that only 50 mourners attend the funeral.

Winnie Mandela Present

MB031344 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1335 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Mamelodi, Dec 3, SAPA — Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of banned ANC leader Nelson Mandela, today joined thousands of mourners in Mamelodi during the mass funeral for 12 people who died in township unrest more than a week ago.

While many of the estimated 40,000 mourners had already left the "C" cemetery early in the afternoon after the last of the victims were buried, a large portion of the crowd was still at the graveyard when Mrs Mandela arrived. Mrs Mandela was immediately surrounded by hundreds of supporters who occasionally had to be kept back by organisers armed with sjamboks.

She was escorted to the graveside under a huge banner of black, green and gold — the ANC colours — where the crowd greeted her raised fist with loud shouts of "viva."

Appeals to the growing crowd to sit down met with no success, and the people were requested to return with Mrs Mandela to the Pitje Soccer Stadium, where the funeral service had been held earlier.

Residents said there had been no incidents of rioting and that the funerals had been peaceful. Police were not in evidence at the cemetery or in the township itself, and the streets were almost deserted. However, police and security force personnel manned roadblocks at the entrances to the township, outside Pretoria.

A pamphlet, which some residents claimed was distributed last night from an armoured security force vehicle, appealed to residents to "let us respect the dead by observing their funerals in quiet and peace."

It said: "Unrest at funerals will only bring us more misery and violence," according to the pamphlet, which was signed by the "People's Awarenesss Committee."

Mourners sang Nkosi Sikeleli Africa [God bless Africa] as the last six coffins were lowered into the ground, and cardboard sheets bearing the names of the victims were raised over their graves. Bystanders then took turns to shovels soil into the graves, sometimes pushing other aside to get hold of a spade.

Dr Nico Smith, chairman of the Pretoria Council of Churches, said police had promised to keep a low prifile at today's ceremony, and that they had withdrawn a condition which had been applied previously that not more than 50 people could attend the funerals of unrest victims.

Two MP's from the Progressive Federal Party [PFP], Mrs Helen Suzman and Mr Peter Soal, attended the funeral ceremony.

Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference, as well as Bishop Simon Nkoane, Anglican bishop of Soweto, were also present.

Addressing the crowd, Mrs Suzman expressed the PFP's sympathy to the victims' families and said:

"The killings must stop; the state of emergency must be lifted; the black leaders must be released from jail and the government should talk to the people and not convict them, if there is to be any peace in the country."

Umtata on Funeral

MB031329 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] More than 45,000 people have peacefully buried 12 victims of police shootings in Mamelodi near Pretoria. The people first packed the stadium where they listened to speeches by several leaders among them Helen Suzman, who said the state of emergency has done nothing to restore peace in the townships. Many of those attending the service stayed away from work affecting hundreds of Pretoria businesses and some car plants near the city.

They were joined by representatives from 11 Western countries who delivered messages expressing their sympathy with the families of those killed.

The 12 coffins including one which is just bigger than a shoe box and contained the body of a 2-month-old baby was draped in the black, green, and gold colors of the banned ANC.

Police have maintained a low profile although they set up roadblocks on the outskirts of Mamelodi where they took the names of all people including journalists entering the area.

Taiwanese Vice Premier Arrives on Visit

MB271442 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1439 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 27, SAPA — The deputy vice premier of the Republic of China, Mr Lin Yang-kang, arrived in Johannesburg this afternoon for a short official visit to South Africa. Mr Lin, who is accompanied by his wife and several senior government officials, was welcomed on his arrival at Jan Smuts airport by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and the chairman of the President's Council, Dr Piet Koornhof.

Mr Lin is to receive the Grand Cross of the Order of the Cape of Good Hope at an official banquet in Sandton tonight.

During their visit the Chinese delegation will visit the state president, Mr P.W. Botha; the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha; the minister of national education, Mr F.W. de Klerk; and the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis.

The Chinese guests will also be entertained by the Chinese community of Johannesburg before their return to Taiwan on December.

Meets With President

MB281219 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 28 Nov 85

[Text] The deputy premier of the Republic of China, Mr Lin Yang-kang, had talks in Pretoria this morning with the president, Mr P. W. Botha. He also had a meeting with the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha.

Mr Lin, accompanied by senior officials of the Republic of China, arrived in South Africa yesterday on a week-long official visit. He will have talks with other members of the cabinet, including the minister of national education, Mr F.W. de Klerk, and the minister of finance, Mr Barend du Plessis.

Further on Formation, Plans For 'Super Union'

COSATU President Interviewed

MB021328 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1326 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Durban, Dec 2, SAPA — Close confidantes of "super unionist" Mr Elijah Borayi, president of the new Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU], see him as one of the most powerful men in South Africa right now. But the man himself said today in an interview that he was a "mere cog" in a very big wheel. "Perhaps an important cog," he said with a wry smile.

Mr Borayi, 53-year-old personnel assistant at the Blyvooruitzicht gold mine at Carltonville in the Transvaal who now heads COSATU with more than 450,000 paid up members in 33 affiliated unions, said he regarded himself as a moderate, had no particular communistic leanings, but was committed to attaining one man one vote in a unitary South Africa.

The existing tricameral parliament must go because it was initiated by "a minority white government with the help of two minority groups, Coloureds and Indians," he said.

As a black leader he would be willing to talk to the state president Mr P.W. Botha, on the country's future only when Mr Botha made a public commitment to dismantle apartheid, he said.

A Xhosa by birth, Mr Borayi said he had no particular desire to talk to the KwaZulu leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, because of the chief's stated willingness to settle for a federal system for South Africa.

With 25 years experience on the mines, Mr Borayi said he felt deeply for mineworkers who were receiving "peanuts" in return for the gold they were digging out — which made mining companies and the country wealthy.

"That is why I strongly believe that when blacks rule the country the mines will be immediately nationalised," he said.

Asked how his employers would react to his publicly stated aim, he replied: "This is the will of the people...black people."

He supported international pressure on the South African Government, including disinvestiment, as an effective way to bring changes.

"If the government remains intransigent, then this pressure will have to be increased," he said, adding that COSATU was actively involving itself in politics, in addition to looking after mundane worker interests.

Mr Borayi lives with his wife, Nontobeko, and their five children at Blyvooruitzichi's Ekuphakemni Village.

To Boycott Centenary

MB021358 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1353 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Durban, Dec 2, SAPA — The new Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] would boycott next year's Johannesburg centenary celebrations on which "millions of rand" was being spent, a COSATU press conference in Durban was told today.

The congress said planning of the celebrations was taking place without consulting workers "who have built Johannesburg, the gold mines and the industrial complexes we have today."

The celebrations will be boycotted and a counter programme would be organised by trade unions under COSATU's banner "to highlight 100 years of exploitation and oppression in Johannesburg and in particular the mining industry," a COSATU resolution released at the press conference said.

To Demand Minimum Wage

MB021438 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1428 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Durban, Dec 2, SAPA — South African employers were marking "massive and unrealistic" profits compared with employers in other capitalistic countries while they paid "starvation wages" to workers, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) said in Durban today.

In a resolution released at a press conference, COSATU said it would demand a national minimum living wage should be fixed and linked to the rate of inflation. It said it would also fight to have company books opened for inspection "so that workers could see exactly how the wealth they have produced is being wasted and misused by the employers' profit system."

Another resolution said foreign and South African multinational corporations exploited workers in Southern Africa "by reaping huge profits and exporting them to Europe and America."

Adopts 'Feminist Position'

MB021640 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1627 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Durban, Dec 2, SAPA — The new Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] has adopted a strong feminist position, rejecting the "exploitation" and discrimination of women. It said it would be "against all unequal and discriminatory treatment of women at work, in society and in the federation."

The COSATU stand on women's rights is the most outspoken position ever taken before in South Africa by a representative, and predominately male, body. In a resolution which was released today COSATU called for equal pay for all work of equal value and "for the restructuring of employment so as to allow women and men the opportunity of qualifying for jobs of equal value."

It said it would fight for child care and family facilities "to meet workers' needs and make it easier for workers to combine work and family responsibilities" and for full maternity rights, "including paid maternity and paternity leave and job security."

It called for the protection of women and men from all types of work that were harmful to them and resolved to fight "against sexual harassment in whatever form it occurs."

The resolution said women workers often suffered sexual harassment in recruitment and employment and that "most women workers in South Africa lose their jobs when they become pregnant."

It also said "women workers experience exploitation as workers and oppression as women and that black women are further discriminated against on the basis of race."

Women were employed "in a limited range of occupations, doing boring and repetitive work with low and often unequal pay." COSATU resolved to set up a worker-controlled sub-committee to promote women's rights and to negotiate agreements on these issues with companies.

Members Listed

MB020809 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1618 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Durban, Dec 1, SAPA — The National Union of mineworkers (NUM), with about 150,000 members, is the biggest of about 30 unions which make up the new Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) which was launched in Durban today.

Other affiliated unions include: Amalgamated Black Workers Union (ABWU), 1000 members; Cape Town Municipal Workers Union (CTMWA), 11100; Chemical Workers Industrial Union (CWIU), 20650; Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA), 35,000; Food and Canning Workers Union (FCWU), 26820; General and Allied Workers Union (GAWU) 1900; General Workers Union (GWU), 9530; Metal and Allied Workers Union (MAWU), 32700.

Municipal and General Workers Union of South Africa (MAGWUSA) 8000; National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (NAAWU) 19540; National Federation of Workers (NFW with 12 affiliated unions), 11550; National General Workers Union (NGWU), 2500; National Iron Steel Metal Workers Union (NISMAWU), 1000; National Union of Printers and Allied Workers (NUPAW), 850; National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW), 23250; Paper, Wood and Allied Workers Union (PWAWU), 9000; Retail and Allied Workers Union (RAWU), 1400; South African Domestic Workers Association (SADWA), 2500; SA Railways and Harbour Workers Union (SARHWU), 8000; SA Scooter Transport and Allied Workers Union (SASTAWU), 4700; SA Textile Allied Workers Union (SATAWU), 1500; SA Tin Workers Union (SATWU), 581; SA Mineworkers Union (SAMWU), 3030; SA Allied Workers Union (SAAWU), 2600; Sweet, Food and Allied Workers Union (SFAWU), 18500; Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU), 8500; United Metal and Allied Workers Union (UMMAWOSA), 6,000.

COSATU has a membership of about 500,000.

A COSATU spokesman said to day the new umbrella body's headquarters had still to be fixed, but was expected to be either in Durban or Johannesburg.

COSATU Welcomed

MB021117 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1056 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 2, SAPA — The formation of a new federation of trade unions in South Africa signified a major milestone in labour and political developments, the PFP's [Progressive Federal Party] spokesman on manpower, Dr Alex Boraine, said today.

He was reacting to the formation of the weekend of the Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU], which represents nearly half a million workers, and to statements made by the movement's president, Mr Elijah Barayi. Mr Barayi called for the nationalisation of the mining and other key industries, the redistribution of wealth and the creation of a socialist state.

In a statement released today, Dr Boraine said it should come as no surprise that there were militant political overtones in the declarations.

"If the government continues to deny political rights to blacks, it is inevitable that other avenues will be used to mobilise and to give expression to both political and economic demands. There can be no doubt that COSATU is going to accelerate very considerably the growing pressures on government to move urgently towards the dismantling of apartheid and a negotiated new constitution with political rights for all."

The congress had wasted no time in "throwing down the gauntlet" to both the public and private sectors, he said. It had a very strong bargaining base and its effect would soon be felt in

the market place. Describing Mr Barayi's initial statements expressing disillusionment with the private enterprise system as "serious," Dr Boraine added: "The challenge is now for government and the private sector to demonstrate clearly that this system offers benefits and opportunities for all South Africans, irrespective of colour."

FCI Official Comments

MB021430 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1412 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 2, SAPA — The formation of a new trade union federation in South Africa, reflecting a broad spectrum of black worker interests, introduced a new dimension in labour relations, Dr Johan van Zyl, chief executive of the SA Federated Chamber of Industries [FCI] said today, in extending an invitation for "dialogue and negotiation."

"The FCI notes the danger that industrial relations issues will be regarded as ultimately political in nature as a consequence of the lack of effective political expression being granted to black workers, a predominant factor in the country's work force," Dr van Zyl said.

He said the FCI remained committed to reinforcing the integrity of the industrial relations bargaining process through negotiation between employers and an effective free and independent trade union movement.

"In this spirit it extends to the new federation an invitation for dialogue and negotiation," Dr van Zyl said.

ANC Radio Lauds Federation

EA031254 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Station commentary entitled "The Giant Has Arisen"]

[Text] Compatriots, the long-awaited formation of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, COSATU, has taken place. In the words of the main convenor, Cyril Ramaphosa of the NUM [National Union of Mineworkers], the giant has arisen. The formation of this trade union federation was greeted with much jubilation by the entire struggling people of our country because it lays the main foundation stone for the unity of the working class in South Africa, the main leading force of our national liberation revolution.

Fellow countrymen, the unity of the working class in our struggle cannot be overemphasized. Their muscle was well demonstrated in the 56th, November, stay-at-home strike recently. [as heard] That strike shook the apartheid capitalist system to its roots. Pot-bellied businessmen were heard saying that Botha and his generals should start considering taking into account the demands of this (?giant). And last weekend, the militant workers of our country took a historic decision to unite in one federation. They agreed to unite as workers in one front that would unite and harness workers' actions, both against exploitative forces and against the criminal apartheid regime.

We, the people of South Africa, welcome with open hands this formation of COSATU, because we know the importance of unity in our struggle. We also know that without the unity of our leading force, which is the working class, our victory over the forces of backwardness and racism will remain just a pipe dream. We welcome the formation of COSATU because we know that, as Ramaphosa put it, that it is a sign that you crush any obstacle that tries to [word indistinct]. However, it is also important to point out, dear compatriots, that even up to now, some unions, for one reason or another, still remain outside this main front.

It is therefore one of the major tasks of those unions who are already inside COSATU to do everything to show [as heard] those unions to come into the mainstream. It is important for us to continue discussing and thrashing out the differences that still lead to the abstention of these unions, because the members of these unions form part of the South African working class. It is therefore very vital that they too be drawn into this mainstream of the struggle for liberation. The decision by the founding delegates of COSATU to involve this giant in the political struggles of our people is as important as it is vital; for in our imperiled motherland, for a union to remain outside the political struggles of the day will render it meaningless and irrelevant.

The repressive laws and decrees that are adopted by the racist regime affect all of us, including the latter. [as heard] The draconian state of emergency has led to the detention of a countless number of union leaders, shop stewards, and militant workers. Scores of others have been victims of the police who shoot bullets (?indiscriminately). It is therefore senseless for a trade union to ignore political struggle and concentrate only on economic struggle. But the unions' involvement in political struggle must never lead us into accepting what is usually referred to as the worker [word indistinct], which means that national liberation in our country can be obtained through trade-union struggle only.

Much as our nation needs the active participation of our unions in political struggle, we, however, maintain that a trade union cannot ever wage the political struggle alone. The role of (?politicized) students, civic and other mass organizations remain indispensable. This therefore means that the very same unionized workers must also become members of civic organizations in their [words indistinct] and take their leading role in action within these organizations. As residents, they must actively participate in (?rent actions), bus boycotts, and other mass activities and protests that are waged by the nation against the apartheid regime.

Therefore, it is very vital that unions should be deeply involved in the mass activities being launched by organizations like the United Democratic Front. The 6-7 month ultimatum put forward by COSATU was in itself a historic political position by this new giant. There is also the issue of racialism, which influenced other unions to stay out of COSATU. The history of our struggle has demonstrated vividly that our struggle is definitely not a racial one, that our enemy is not a particular racial group, despite the endless attempt by the oppressors and exploiters to portray the white race as the main enemy of the oppressed.

Names of patriots like Neil Aggett and (Barbara Holgan) stand out like a tower as the people who stood firm side by side with the oppressed (?working class) of our country. For us to shut our doors in the faces of such patriots will rob our struggle of their invaluable contributions. On that principle, we remain uncompromised. However, it is the duty of those who have realized this fact to continue explaining to those who haven't. We also believe that their continued involvement in action in the daily battles both against the bosses and the apartheid regime will open their eyes.

The guiding slogan of "one industry, one need" is also very important at this stage of our struggle. It is high time now that the general unions which undoubtedly played a very crucial role in the formation of industrial unions should start [word indistinct] themselves out now in favor of industrial unions. Experience has already shown us that we are stronger when we are organized in industrial unions than when we are organized in general unions. This process, however, must follow detailed and comradely discussions among the unions involved.

Fellow countrymen, COSATU has been born. The giant has arisen. The enemy has already started panicking because he knows that the united strength of the working class coupled with the united action of the entire oppressed nation cannot be destroyed by his army and police.

The formation of COSATU therefore must inspire the entire nation into bitter battles against the regime. Let us now stand united and demand through actions an end to the criminal apartheid system. Let us demand an end to the draconian state of emergency, the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of troops and police from our residential areas, the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners. Let us now move into stronger action against the enemy. Our street battles that have been going on for almost 2 years must be stepped up. The enemy must be confronted on all fronts. Victory is certain.

Inkatha Contacts ANC To Improve Relations

MB290626 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] There are reported to have been contacts between Inkatha and the ANC. A senior Inkatha official has offered to set up talks between that organization and the ANC following a steady deterioration in relations between the two groups since 1979. Carmel Rickard has details.

The secretary general of Inkatha, Oscar Dhlomo, telexed Lusaka earlier this month. He was protesting at the bombing of Inkatha's Amsterdam office and what he called the ANC's string of denigratory statements against Inkatha and its president. He said both the ANC and Inkatha were essential to the black struggle, and offered his help in setting up discussions aimed at restoring relations to their pre-1979 cordiality. Dhlomo has not received any reply to his telex yet. He told me he thought the only hope for reconciliation between the two groups, and between the UDF [United Democratic Front] and Inkatha was for the intervention of the Frontline States, particularly Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda. He said these African leaders could play a crucial role in working out some kind of truce in the present conflict between the groups.

Port Elizabeth Boycott 'Conditionally' Suspended

MB020716 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1824 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Port Elizabeth, Dec 1, SAPA — The boycott of white-owned businesses in Port Elizabeth is to be suspended conditionally until a six-month ultimatum given to South Africa by Commonwealth leaders in October runs out.

A rally attended by more than 50,000 people at the Dan Qeqe Stadium in Zwide was told today that if the government failed to address itself to the boycott committee's long-term demands a national boycott would be called in April to coincide with economic sanctions the Commonwealth group has threatened to impose if South Africa fails to dismantle apartheid.

It was also disclosed that groundwork had already been started in the Eastern Cape towards establishing a national boycott coordinating body. Community organisations in several towns had agreed to throw their weight behind the proposed effort, the meeting was told.

Mr Mkhuseli Jack, spokesman for the boycott committee, said an envoy would be sent overseas before the end of the six-month ultimatum to address Commonwealth leaders who were reluctant to impose the economic blockade of South Africa on the grounds that it would hurt blacks most.

The buy-African campaign in Port Elizabeth, initially called for two months, was launched on July 15 and was aimed at prodding the white business community to bring pressure to bear on the government to meet certain demands. It was reimposed on for a further two months in September and suspended for two weeks on November 15.

Mr Jack, who received a standing ovation before and after his address, said several of the community's short-term demands had been addressed satisfactorily.

He said troops had been pulled, some local community leaders had been released and the granting of the permission to hold the rally — the first officially sanctioned out-door gathering since time immemorial — were pointers that pressure was working.

Mr Jack also announced that a number of businesses had agreed to reinstate employees who lost their jobs because of the state of emergency and several department stores had undertaken to offer blacks the same discounts offered to white senior citizens. He said the long-term demands were "national issues" and it would take a national drive for them to be met.

"We want to know why the government cannot bring to justice the criminals who are killing UDF [United Democratic Front] leaders. We want Nelson Mandela, all political prisoners and people in exile back home. We want the ANC and the Congress of South African Students unbanned."

Mr Henry Fazzie, vice-president of the UDF in the Eastern Cape, said he had spent "nights without sleep" liaising with community leaders in Eastern Cape towns about establishing a boycott coordinating committee. He said he had also made contact with people in Johannesburg and their plans were at an advanced stage. Mr Ernest Malgas, who chaired the meeting, said he had a special message for the white people of South Africa.

"We are sick and tired of apartheid. If they (whites) vote for the apartheid system they must know they are sending out a challenge to the black community," he said.

Mr Mpumelelo Odolo, vice-president of the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress, said his organisation would ensure that the meeting's decision was observed.

National Students Union Congress Banned

MB291235 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1233 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 29, SAPA — The annual congress of the National Union of South African Students, due to start here on Monday, has been banned in terms of the emergency regulations.

Union Rejects Ban

MB291553 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1532 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, November 29, SAPA — The banning under the emergency regulations of the 63rd Congress of the National Union of South African Students [NUSAS] was "another desperate act of a government in a state of panic," the organisation said in a statement here today.

NUSAS' President Mr Brendan Barry told SAPA the banning order, signed by the divisional commissioner of police for the Western Cape, Brigadier C.A. Swart, was handed to him at his home this afternoon. He said the notice forbade NUSAS from holding its congress — or any other meeting — in any part of the Western Cape under the emergency regulations before December 14.

The congress, and annual meeting to assess and plan the activities of student government at white universities, would however go ahead, Mr Barry said, if necessary at another venue. It was to have been held at the University of Cape Town from December 2 to 7. He said in a statement on behalf of NUSAS that this was "not the first time in our history that such action had been taken against us."

The banning followed the detention or arrest this year of "more than 50 of our students," Mr Barry said.

The government's "absurd attack" on NUSAS reflected the effectiveness of its opposition to apartheid, "a fact of which we remain proud and a commitment from which we will not be deterred."

"No banning order will prevent us from adding our voice of protest to the opposition of the majority of South Africans to (State President Mr P.W.) Botha's government. But we believe that this government action is mild when compared to their brutal measures adopted at Uitenhage, Mamelodi and townships throughout South Africa. Nonetheless it is symptomatic of a government which has lost control of its people, has no credibility and now seeks through violent power to silence all opposition — now even from the white community. Through its actions the government has proved once again that it is hell-bent on entrenching violent conflict in our country. This can only consolidate the committment of all freedom-loving South Africans to work for justice in our country."

— The annual congress of the South African Students Press Union (SASPU), which was to have taken place tomorrow and on Sunday, was also banned today under the same conditions applying to the NUSAS Ban.

NUSAS To Go to Court

MB291758 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1723 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 29 SAPA — The National Union of South African Students says it will attempt to obtain a court order overturning today's banning of its annual congress and that of the South African Students Press Union. [SASPU]

NUSAS President Mr Brendan Barry told a press conference here today that while alternative venues were being investigated, holding the congresses as planned at the University of Cape Town in defiance of the orders, was also "on the agenda of our discussions."

The bannings, signed by the divisional commissioner of police in the Western Cape, Brigadier C.A. Swart, and issued in terms of the emergency regulations, prohibit either meeting from being held in the magisterial districts of Cape Town, Wynberg, Simons Town, Goodwood, Bellville and Kuilsriver before December 14.

The NUSAS congress was to be held from December 2-7, and that of SASPU tomorrow and on Sunday.

Mr Barry said a final announcement on the venue of the congresses would be made within the 24 hours. "We want to make it clear that both congresses will go ahead," he said.

He said the congresses were to have been held at the University of Stellenbosch but they had been "effectively banned" by the rector, Prof Mike de Vries who said NUSAS was a political body and that university regulations did not allow political bodies to have conferences on the campus.

The SASPU executive said in a statement released at the press conference that it and its 43 affiliated newspapers condemned "in the strongest possible terms" the banning of its congress. "The truth is something which the SA government seems to fear," the statement said. "The ban comes in the context of a concerted clampdown on the press in South Africa and represents another nail in the coffin of press freedom."

SASPU Meeting Banned

MB291803 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1755 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 29, SAPA — The banning in the Cape today under emergency regulations of the weekend congress of the South African Students Press Union [SASPU] was today strongly condemned by SASPU. A statement issued by SASPU president, Miss Gulietta Sasak, said the ban came in the context of a concerted clampdown on press in South Africa, but that SASPU and its affiliates would not be intimidated.

The 63rd Congress of the National Union of SA Students (NUSAS) was banned under the same regulations. The SASPU congress was to have been held at the University of Cape Town.

The statement said:

"The SASPU executive and our 43 affiliated newspapers condemn in the strongest possible terms the banning of our two-day congress at UCT this weekend.

"The ban comes in the context of a concerted clampdown of press in South Africa and represents another nail in the coffin of press freedom. Truth is something which the South African Government seems to fear. At present we face a virtual blackout on news about key issues and events. Student newspapers play a key role in exposing the truth about life under apartheid — this is something which has always put us at odds with the government," SASPU said.

"Both SASPU affiliated newspapers and SASPU national have been banned consistently over the years. The national has been banned for all future editions on three occasions over the past four years. We will not be intimidated by the ban. In the short-term we have plans to hold the congress elsewhere. In the long-term our work as progressive, critical journalist will continue stronger than ever," the statement added.

Bannings Criticized

MB010531 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1443 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 30, SAPA — The banning of two student congresses, one scheduled to start today and the other on Monday, were described as "a further assault on democratic organisations" by three organisations of the University of Cape Town [UCT] today.

The Lecturers Association, the UCT Academic Staff Association and the UCT Working Group for Progressive Education said in a statement in Cape Town that as members of the University of Cape Town "we condemn the arbitrary banning of the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) congress, and the South African Students Press Union (SASPU) conference.

"These bannings are a further assault on democratic organisations which are attempting, in a responsible manner, to formulate and disseminate ideas for just and acceptable educational, social, political and economic structures in our country," the statement said.

Police Report on Unrest Situation, Arrests, Arson

2 Dec Evening Report

MB021655 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1652 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Pretoria, Dec 2, SAPA — Following is the SAP 7 pm "unrest report":

The following incidents of unrest were reported today:

In the black residential area near Robertson, in the Boland, the development board offices were set on fire and extensively damaged. In the same area, a private home was set alight and extensively damaged. At Leandra, in the Eastern Transvaal, a white-owned cafe near to the black residential area was set on fire and extensively damaged. In the black residential area near Steynsburg, in the South Western Districts, a large mob stoned a private home. Police dispersed the stonethrowers with shotgun fire, wounding a youth. At Nonzwakazi, near De Aar, a man was arrested when he slashed the tyres of a private vehicle.

3 Dec Morning Report

MB030718 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0648 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Pretoria, Dec 3, SAPA — Following is police situation report on overnight unrest to 8 am. Issued by the public relations division of the SAP in Pretoria:

Isolated but violent and destructive incidents occurred during last night.

In the New Brighton black residential area near Port Elizabeth a black man was burnt to death when the house he was sleeping in was set on fire.

At Galashewe near Kimberley a policeman was attacked in his home by knife-wielding blacks. He sustained several stab wounds and is at present in a serious condition in hospital. In the Western Cape, three private vehicles were destroyed in three seperate incidents, which occurred in Gugulethu, Old Crossroads and the coloured area of Phillipi. In the later instance, a black youth was responsible for the destruction, when he threw a petrol bomb into the vehicle.

Youths Attack Commuters

MB021721 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1720 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Atteridgeville, Dec 2, SAPA — Groups of Atteridgeville youths stopped workers from going to work this morning. The police were called in to disperse the youths attacking commuters at the township's railway station and the bus stops. Those

attacked this afternoon apparently bought groceries in town despite the consumer boycott called for December in the area. Unconfirmed reports say the boycott is gaining momentum and would be effective later this month.

200 Reportedly Arrested in Crossroads Operation

MB031210 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1143 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Cape Town, Dec 3, SAPA — More than 200 people were arrested in the Crossroads squatter camp in the Cape peninsula during a security force sweep through the area this morning, SABC radio news reports.

The radio said it was not clear at this stage how many of those detained had been involved in unrest and how many in "ordinary crimes." The operation began at 7 am when troops cordoned off the area. Police and railways police then searched houses. The radio quoted senior police spokesman Brig Chris Swart as saying the operation was successful and that there was no violence.

New Crossroads Raid

MB031223 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Another security force raid is reported to be in progress at the Crossroads Squatter Camp near Cape Town. The reports say about 1,000 police and SADF members are conducting what has been officially described as a clean-up operation. No other details are available. Last week during a similar raid a man was shot dead during a gun fight with the security forces.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

30 Nov Press Review

MB300540 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency and related topics:

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 29 November carries a report from London citing antiapartheid remarks by Barclays chairman Sir Timothy Bevan. Bevan said Barclays had been "unfairly singled out as one of the prime examples of those supporting the system." "He also called for the release of Nelson Mandela and an end to 'institutionalised racial discrimination' in SA." He called for South Africa " 'to stop wasting time and act before it is too late.' " Bevan said the RSA was " 'woefully slow' " to dismantle apartheid, criticized the "muzzling" of the press, and accused the police of " 'violence and inhumanity.' "

PFP Growth

The paper reports that the Progressive Federal Party will hear details on 1 December of its campaign to signup members in the townships. "It is understood the drive has been particularly successful in the Cape Peninsula and the Port Elizabeth area, where 'hundreds' of members have been signed up," the party's Transvaal leader Douglas Gibson said. The party had also had other successes and was experiencing "steady growth" despite "fierce resistance" from the United Democratic Front and similar organizations.

U.S. Lobbyists

An article by Simon Barber in Washington examines the RSA public relations campaign in the U.S., which is carried out by five firms at the cost to South Africa of over R5 million annually. Some of the money has gone to lobbyists such as James Symington, John Sears, and Stuart Spencer. Both Symington and Spencer have since severed their connections, and Sears has no influence in the White House. No other country, the article notes, has had to hire so many U.S. surrogates to help because its position as an international pariah makes it impossible for it to do its own lobbying, despite its 26-man diplomatic staff. Citing other examples of nonaction by lobbyists, the report says that "one is sometimes inclined to think the money could have been better spent."

ANC Gaining Strength

In a "news analysis", Paul Bell reports that "there is evidence that the ANC's armed struggle ... is becoming increasingly internally-based and able to be sustained independently of external resources." Bell cites Witwatersrand University lecturer Tom Lodge as saying the "people's war" is already underway, as evidenced by the grenade attacks in the Western Cape, the increased activity of the ANC military wing, the increased attacks on people rather than installations, and the increased thefts of weapons from security forces. Speaking at the RSA Institute of Foreign Affairs, Lodge described this week's landmine attacks as " 'significant, a new tactic, one not used before and a pointer to the future, and which might make the lives of people in rural areas increasingly uncomfortable.' "

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 28 November carries an editorial saying the planting of landmines in South Africa "amounts to an act of war and quite rightly elicited a firm diplomatic response from Foreign Minister Pik Botha." These mines, it says, cannot "bring about the political change that well-meaning neighbors want to see in this country." Noting Pik Botha's warning, the editorial says that he and Defense Minister Malan should "keep their cool." "If we were to over-react and extract at random terrible reprisals, our friends abroad will simply shrug us off as being our own worst enemies. Let the punishment be seen to fit the crime."

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 29 November reports that "at least one leading member of the top command of the banned African National Congress (ANC), Ronnie Karils, formerly of Durban, has been operating freely from Zimbabwe in the last two years. But whether the Mugabe Government was aware of his clandestine activities cannot be established." A Zimbabwean justice minister spokesman refused to discuss the situation. Karils, one of the "main mentors" of the Netherlands fugitive Klaas de Jonge, was a go-between for the ANC and De Jong. In an editorial on the "New Terror," the paper discusses the planting of five landmines in the northern Transvaal and

says: "We are not surprised the ANC has shown its brutal hand at this point, for it has threatened to intensify its armed attacks, and we have never doubted that it would do so." "At the same time," it notes that "the ANC has tricked some people here, and many people abroad, into believing that it is an organization of moderates," and says that the businessmen who traveled to Lusaka, the PFP, and some papers have been "suckers" for the ANC. The paper stresses that "the new bout of terrorism has even more serious aspects than the customary ones," for it extends terrorism to the farming areas. On Pik Botha's warning to Zimbabwe, the paper says that "Zimbabwe and South Africa may not eat at the same table, but they should not be forced by terrorist action into open confrontation. It is in the interests of both countries — and particularly Zimbabwe — that a stop is put to the landmine offensive before there is hot pursuit and reprisals."

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 28 November reports that farmers in the northern border areas near Zimbabwe "want to see an electrified border fence put up to ensure greater safety for them." The farmers have been expecting an attack and were prepared. However, they feel "the double sisal fence" which marks the border is "inadequate."

Pretoria Council Meeting

THE CITIZEN reports that all but one of the right-wing members of the Pretoria City Council "walked out of the Chamber in protest yesterday — some of them with the permission of the mayor — over the presence of nine Coloureds in the public gallery of the Chamber." The protesters were members of the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP — Reformed National Party] and the Conservative Party. The walkout "effectively spiked two race protest motions planned for later" on "possible multi-racial aspects to the planned park and ride scheme and open cinemas and theaters", where "there is growing division within the governing Nat Party backed Federation of Ratepayers' councillor ranks."

The paper also reports that a PFP motion "to exempt Randburg from the Group Areas Act and to extend open Central Business Districts to other commercial centres and residential areas was flatly rejected by the Randburg Town Council last night." The council agreed to open only the Central Business districts to all races, over PFP objections. A motion to set aside an area for "controlled squatting" was also defeated.

Economic Forecast

Pretoria *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 27 November, in an editorial says: "Distressing developments in the economic front indicates greater hardship for South Africans in 1986 despite government efforts to stimulate the economy." It is becoming clear that even white impoverishment and hunger is increasing at a rate reminiscent of the great depression. To the extent that South Africa's economic crisis is seen as a result of outside punitive measures, the attitude of whites toward Western "friends" will harden. "While outside pressure is playing a role, we must in all seriousness recognize the government's and our fault for our misery." It notes that there is no instant solution to unemployment, poverty, and hunger. Concluding, it says "it is time for pity in which those who have should give generously to those who do not have. We as whites should hold hands if we are survive this difficult time and the pressures."

Naude on Peace

The same issue also quotes Dr Beyers Naude as saying that he is prepared to die for the liberation of South Africa. He had hoped that change would be achieved peacefully but realizes that it is impossible these days. "If the Pretoria Regime really wants peace, he says, it should release Nelson Mandela who is a man of insight and is accepted by a large majority as their true leader." He says he supports the ANC, which is seeking a democratic government in South Africa.

Pretoria *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 28 November asks in its editorial "if Dr Beyers Naude is seeking matyrdom. Is he consciously seeking action against him?" What other statement can be made about a Christian man who finds justification in the fact that black people are fighting each other in the freedom struggle. "We would expect a man of his Christian stature to approach the problem with greater insight." Chief Buthelezi's standpoints are more Christian and acceptable, the paper says.

Talks on Angola

In the political column in the same issue, Harald Pakendorf says "there is once again a possibility for a settlement of the Angolan question." South Africa has reacted positively to earlier American proposals. Now, Angola must also react as discussions between Luanda and Washington are in progress. "The main issue is still the Cuban presence in Angola."

Commonwealth Mission

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans on 28 November says in an editorial "there can be little hope of a Commonwealth mission contributing positively to solving the country's problems." South Africa's overseas friends find it difficult to understand that constitutional reform and the dismantling of apartheid cannot be achieved immediately. "How can people who have an inborn antagonism toward us help find an acceptable solution to our problems?" It observes that it is going to be difficult to conduct positive discussions with people who are antagonistic. Concluding, it says "nevertheless it is good that the government does not prohibit the visit. We have had a wealth of experience with this sort of futile visits from overseas."

Botha Quoted on Economy

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 29 November quotes State President Botha in an editorial as saying "with a view to the expected upswing in the economy, training and job creation are of great importance." The result of this, says the president, is that about 200,000 trained workers will be ready by March next year to contribute to the economy. Thus, President Botha has emphasized an old economic truth that continued prosperty is not possible without properly trained people. It notes that "South Africa cannot afford a large part of its population to remain poorly trained." The money being spent now on training is really an investment for the future, it says.

Further on Mines

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 29 November reports that in the wake of the explosions, all farming along the banks of the Limpopo has halted and a former Zimbabwean was quoted as saying "I think the bad old days are here again."

According to the SADF commander for the Soutpansberg military area, Colonel J. Swanepoel, "it was clear from follow-up operations in the Limpopo area near Messina that several groups of infiltrators were responsible for planting of landmines over a wide area." He said the travel ban in the area would not be lifted until he was satisfied all landmines had been found.

Runner Reportedly Assaulted

The paper reports that "a leading Transvaal marathon runner, Mr Ephraim Sibisi, was allegedly assaulted by police in Johannesburg's northern suburbs on Wednesday night after being arrested for not having his reference book with him on his way home from a Rand Athletic Club committee meeting." After he was stopped by five policemen and asked for his pass, which he had forgotten, he protested. " 'A policeman told me to keep quiet and punched me on the jaw,' he said." A police spokesman said the matter was being investigated.

Government Mishandling

In an editorial on the "air of unreality" in the "political atmosphere," *THE STAR* notes the various problems being experienced by the country and the government's mishandling of them, saying "poor decisions have been compounded by even poorer execution." This might be tolerable for a limited period if it signaled a "genuine seeking of alternatives." "However, that does not seem to be the case." The government gives no indication "that they hear the cries or notice the storm clouds." The paper says "the opening of parliament is the next appropriate moment to reveal plans." It hopes the people will see "some real reform dynamism." If government members "haven't heard the voices by then, they will sail serenely into a South African sunset, taking us all with them," the editorial concludes.

Mamelodi Unrest

In a second editorial, the paper notes the differing stories about the killings at Mamelodi and wonders why the Government is "so reluctant to establish the truth." "As long as the authorities refuse to hold a proper inquiry, the impression will grow that they have something to hide."

Education

Johannesburg *THE SOWETAN* in English on 29 November reports that "the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee will meet teachers and pupils soon to get their feelings on the postponement of secondary schools international examinations to January 16 next year by the Department of Education and Training." The committee spokesman refused to comment on the proposal until consultations were complete.

According to John Kane-Berman, director of the Institute of Race Relations, "South Africa could make an immediate start with de-segregating education," the paper reports. Saying that a segregated system "was not suitable for the manpower profile for the future" and also that blacks would not accept it, Kane-Berman notes that students taking jobs will be much more likely to have a black secretary or black boss because "discrimination in industry will be a thing of the past" and that the education system should prepare students, both black and white, for this. He said desegregation could end immediately as follows: "all authorities with school registering power could be given authority to register schools on a non-racial basis; the government could publicly announce that church and other private schools were free to desegregate; the government could actively encourage the establishment of non-apartheid schools by making subsidies available for them; the government could itself establish non-racial schools."

"The government should take the initiative to remove job reservation in South African mines," says D.T. Watt, chairman of Rand Mines, the paper reports. In a statement to shareholders, Mr Watt said he did not think negotiation with the white miners on the issue would be successful and said the government could amend legislation of the definition of a " 'scheduled person.' " "The replacement of 'scheduled person' by the non-racial 'competent person' will open the way for the appointment of the most able person to any job, regardless of race, Mr Watt said."

Police Excesses

THE SOWETAN's editorial discusses a court ruling that police were not responsible for the death of 4-year-old Mitah Ngobeni, who was killed by a police rubber bullet in September. No reasons were given for the decision. "We have come to know the attitude that some law officers take towards the police. The seriousness of such action seems to leave them cold," the editorial says. If police believe they can get away with such actions, "they will feel that they have the law on their side and that the courts will protect them even if they commit some pretty dreadful mistakes." The editorial says that many people view the decision with horror and that reaction to the decision may be worse than the reaction to the killing itself. "If there is more bitterness, more anger and therefore more instability, people like this particular magistrate have to bear the blame," the editorial concludes.

Consumer Boycotts

The "Joe's Burg" column discusses the plight of Indian businessmen hurt by the consumer boycotts although the Indians are also discriminated against by apartheid. The author hopes that guidelines will be issued on this "sensitive issue" by boycott leaders. He also notes that "unless direction is given to any protest action, it almost always hits back at the oppressed." However, he refuses to offer an opinion on the issue, and reviews various injustices against blacks over the past week. "It is easy enough to sit high on a pedestal and dismiss the threats of boycotts — if you are white and particularly Afrikaner," he says. However, if whites are afraid to be seen to be giving in to black demands, then they will face "more radical people as the years drag on, leaving a trail of blood on the drought striken soil of our country."

UDF Statement

The paper also reports on a press conference by United Democratic Front patron Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa, who said that "many people were increasingly becoming convinced that there was a deliberate plan to kill blacks in the country because the number of those who have died at the hands of security forces was increasing." Mkhatshwa told the press conference: " 'The present situation in South Africa had all the characteristics of a civil war. Those entrusted with maintaining and promoting peace and justice were in fact the very people who were terrorising residents. We also noticed extreme polarisation and alienation in the townships.' " He urged that police and army be withdrawn from the townships, that rents be reasonable, that funeral restrictions be removed, and that peaceful protesters be protected.

1 Dec Press Review

MB010649 [Editorial Report] **Possible Mandela Release** — Johannesburg *WEEKLY MAIL* in English on 25-29 November reports that "the saga over the possible release of Nelson Mandela from prison is not yet over. The government is still seeking ways in which to get him off its hands." Reportedly Mandela was visited by a cabinet minister before being returned to prison. Mandela's family and lawyer, however, said they knew of no new developments.

Consumer Boycotts

According to the director of the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, talks between the chamber and "black community organisations on the consumer boycott of white businesses could pave the way for a non-racial forum to solve regional and even national problems," the paper reports. Speaking at the Institute of Race Relations, Chamber Director Tony Gilson, "also declared his support for non-racial municipalities and rejected ... the government's proposed Regional Services Council." He said the regional councils have no credibility in the black community and would be too expensive. He said talks with community leaders had convinced him "apartheid had to be removed from the statute books and all South Africans should be involved in working towards a system where all could participate freely." Although optimistic about the lifting of the boycott, he stressed: " 'We're not just talking about the boycott, we're talking about South Africa's future — it's as simple and as stark as that.' "

In an article on the Port Elizabeth consumer boycott rally on 1 December, the paper cites boycott leader Mkhuseli Jack as saying the committee wants a number of local demands met within a specified period and if not, the boycott would be reimposed. The withdrawal of troops from the townships, release of boycott leaders, and permission to hold the rally were three. Others were: "Opening the halls in the white city centre to meetings for blacks; the construction of bus shelters, equal pensions for black and white, and end to job reservation, the opening of the city's beaches to all, improving living conditions in the townships, and opening the central business district to all races."

Hunger Strikes

The paper also reports that Bishop Desmond Tutu and United Democratic Front patron Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa have joined a fast on 29 November in support the hunger strike at Johannesburg Prison. The detainees began their strike on 27 November to support their demands for "the lifting of the State of Emergency, the release of political prisoners and detainees and the withdrawal of the SADF and Security Forces from the townships."

Mamelodi Violence

In an article on the violence in Mamelodi citing eyewitnesses, Sefako Nyaka reports that police originally suggested the marchers go to the stadium. However, marchers wanted to go to the municpal offices as that is where they paid their rent. The march was initially jovial and "some eyewitnesses even claimed the police were controlling the marchers from spilling into yards or trampling over flowerbeds." When police told marchers to disperse, much of the crowd could not hear. " 'Almost without warning, police fired teargas canisters at the crowd. As the people were fleeing, more canisters were fired from the helicopter and from the rooftops of the nearby single men's hostel.' " Some believed the massacre would have been worse had they gone to the stadium. " 'I think if we had gone into the stadium the police would have blocked all entrances and who knows how many more would have died,' one said." "There were horrific tales of beatings, when police went on a house-to-house search long after the shooting," the paper reports.

Cases of Opposition

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 30 November reports that a Progressive Federal Party ward councillor has taken up the case of three Indian golfers banned from Huddle Park golf course. The councillor challenged course management "to order that playing tickets be issued to all fee-paying golfers of all races."

The Transkei Supreme Court granted "an urgent application to postpone until next year banishment orders against an Umtata lawyer, Mr Dynusa Ntsebeza, and his brother,Mr Lungisile Ntsebeza," who were banished by President Kaiser Matanzima to the Mhlahlane administrative area, the paper reports. They are cousins of a University of Transkei activist killed on 30 September while being held by police.

ANC Message

THE STAR cites a telexed message from the ANC's Lusaka office vowing to escalate the " 'armed and political struggle' " after claiming responsibility for the explosions in the northern Transvaal and the rocket attacks, which it called " 'a generalized escalation of both the political and military struggle against the South African racist regime.' " The message said: " 'The ANC vows that it will continue with the struggle to overthrow the apartheid regime and replace it with a united, non-racial, democratic and just society.' "

Unrest Coverage Ban

The paper's editorial assesses the success of the government's ban on television coverage of unrest. It acknowledges that "the media ban has pushed South Africa of the world's front pages," but points out that "there is no evidence that South Africa's image abroad has improved; the profile is merely lower." The unrest continues and the death toll has rise by more than 70. "The tragic events at Mamelodi last week showed up the Government's media decision for what it is: a political ruse with at best, dubious short-term benefits."

In the "Undercurrent Affairs" column, Harvey Tyson says "one of South Africa's biggest problems is understanding what its problems are." "Truth has become the victim of bitter polarisation," between left and right, he notes. Citing Mamelodi as the most recent example, he notes that "rumour grows almost in proportion to the absence of trained independent observers, and certainly in relation to the tardiness of the release of official figures." "If South Africans are to solve their problems," he says, "they have to have accurate information about them."

New Constitution

A "Political Commentary" by David Braun says that the high-level contacts with homelands leaders during the past few weeks shows "how much value Pretoria is still placing on the homelands as an essential part of the solution to the question of accommodating black political aspirations." "Secondly, it is becoming clear that Pretoria is leaning closer and closer to the concepts of confederation and federation as a means to entrench minority, and especially white, sovereignty." Although no blueprint for a new constitution exists and the "nuts and bolts of confederation" will have to be negotiated, "sources close to the Government believe the end result may involve a form of confederation of the independent homelands, the self-governing states, the white, coloured and Indian own affairs administrations, urban black city states, and possibly even regional units such as an integrated KwaZulu/Natal," he says. "The system is intended to work on the twin principles of maximum sovereignty for each unit, with multilateral co-operation through various structures and possibly some form of overall supreme council." The matters of mutual concern would also include regional defense and foreign policy.

Johannesburg *CITY PRESS* in English on 1 December reports that "popular Mamelodi Parent's Association leader Louis Khumalo was admitted to the Kalafong Hospital unconscious last Thursday after allegedly being assaulted." His wife said the Supreme Court will be asked to permit him to be examined by a private physician. A Mamelodi mourner told a press conference that her 2-month-old baby had died 4 days after being overcome with teargas fired at the rally. "A man ... was shot in the head by a bullet believed to have been fired from a police helicopter," the paper adds. "Several black leaders and busnessmen have promised money to help Mita Ngobeni's family appeal to the Supreme Court against a Pretoria Inquest Court finding which cleared the police of her death," the paper reports. They include *CITY PRESS* editor Percy Qoboza. According to the girl's grandmother, "it was a miscarriage of justice to exonerate the policeman who killed my granddaughter." An eyewitness was not called to give testimony.

In his "Percy's Itch" column, Percy Qoboza examines the decision in the case of Mita Ngobeni's death and compares it with the death of Steve Biko, in which it was also found that "nobody was responsible." "Biko's ghost rebelled and has been haunting this country up to the present day," he says, adding "I think little Mita is also about to take up where Biko left off." He asks the Black Lawyers Association to dig into the case because they "have every moral responsibility to ensure that lawlessness by law enforcers is mercilessy pursued."

Sipho Jacobs writes in the paper that "the brutal killing in Dube last week of Gertrude Sishi and her daughter ... is something all people in this country should be ashamed of." The actions by the culprits harmed the "struggle for equality in South Africa" because it brings into question "our actions in our pursuit of freedom." "Is society justified in setting people alight simply because they have slipped up somewhere through their political ignorance?" he asks. "Human life is too valuable to be destroyed in this brutal fashion," he concludes.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Speaks on Resuscitating 'Ailing' Economy

MB290917 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has called on all Zambians to understand that the current economic problems the country was facing were not as a result of mismanagement by the party and its government. Dr Kaunda said the factors that had caused the problems were completely out of control of the party and its government.

Speaking when he commissioned 64 Zambia Air Force officers at Livingstone [word indistinct] (?base), the president said the example of these factors were the high prices of oil and oil imports. Dr Kaunda, however, assured the nation that the party and its government was fully committed to the resuscitation of the economy, and it was for this reason that the government has taken drastic measures to improve the ailing economy. He said that despite the economic problems the country was passing through, the party and its government was committed to the [words indistinct] with the available resources.

Finance Minister Meets With Mozambican Counterpart

MB271856 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] Mozambican Minister of Finance Rui Baltazar held talks in Lusaka today with his Zambian counterpart, Luke Mwananshiku, in readiness for the forthcoming summit of SADCC's ministers of finance to be held in January next year in Harare, Zimbabwe. Mr Baltazar is at the head of a four-man delegation whose next stop is Harare for similar talks centered on mapping out common strategy relating to cooperation. The Mozambican delegation was met at Lusaka International Airport by Minister of State for Development Planning and Finance Mr Mbambo Sianga and officials from the Ministry of Finance and Foreign Affairs when it arrived in for the 1-day talks.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Departs on Visit to USSR, Austria

MB020721 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, left Harare last night for a 2-day official visit to the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics. He was seen off at Harare international airport by the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, several government ministers and their deputies as well as members of the diplomatic corps. The visit is at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and the Soviet Government.

From Moscow, Comrade Mugabe will travel to Vienna where he will spend another 2 days as the official guest of the Austrian Government. He is being accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende; the minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa; the minister of state for defense, Comrade Ernest Kadungure; and other government officials.

Further on USSR Visit

For Soviet and Harare reportage on President Robert Mugabe's visit to the Soviet Union and his meetings with Soviet officials, including his visit with General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, see the Sub-Saharan Africa section of the 2 Dec Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Mugabe Congratulates SFRY, Albania on Anniversaries

MB300920 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has sent a congratulatory message to Comrade Milka Planinc on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

In his message, Comrade Mugabe said the anniversary of the liberation of Yugoslavia is an event of great significance not only to the people of that country but to the international community, and it also celebrates the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. The prime minister said the historic victory brought about peace, ushering a new era of socialism not only in Europe but the world over. Comrade Mugabe said the efforts of the Yugoslav Government in upholding peace as evidenced by its participation in the Nonaligned Movement and in international forums are greatly appreciated.

The prime minister has also sent another congratulatory message to the first secretary of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Albanian Labor Party, Comrade Ramij Alia, on the occassion of his country's national day. Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwe shares with Albania the strong belief in safeguarding independence against any form of subjugation.

Mugabe Message to 'Arafat Affirms Solidarity

MB010550 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has sent a message to the chairman of the PLO, Comrade Yasir 'Arafat, to mark the international day of solidarity with the Palestinians. In his message, Comrade Mugabe reaffirmed Zimbabwe's (?relentless) support for the just struggle engaged by the PLO against the Israeli illegal occupation of Palestine. The prime minister expressed the hope that the people of Palestine through the PLO, their sole and authentic representative, will intensify the armed struggle until the noble goal of the establishment of an independent Palestine state is achieved.

Government Seeking Alternatives to Ties With RSA

MB020816 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The minister of finance, economic planning and development, Comrade Bernard Chidzero, has said Zimbabwe would rather seek alternatives than deal with the South African Government. Speaking on Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation Television last night, Comrade Chidzero reiterated that Zimbabwe has to decrease its dependence on South Africa by seeking other alternatives. He noted that the only way out is to look for other routes such as TAZARA [Tanzania, Zambia Railway Authority], Beira and Chicualacuala, regardless of cost.

The minister said the government is aware of the problems that will be faced in the event of economic sanctions being imposed on racist South Africa. He added that Zimbabwe will survive the ordeal. He emphasized that Zimbabwe's support for sanctions against the murderous regime is a justified cause in the interest of peace and justice in southern Africa.